

Hafa Adai!

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75¢

Dynasty not shutting down



MID-AUTUMN FESTIVAL

Lanterns of various colors and lights adorn the Carolinian Utt in Garapan last Saturday in celebration of the Mid-Autumn Festival, also known as the Lantern or Moon Cake Festival. The Chinese Association of Saipan invited families to take part in their simple but joyous celebration.

FRAULEINE S. VILLANUEVA

See story on
Page 2

By JAYSON CAMACHO
jayson_camacho@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Tinian Dynasty Hotel & Casino has decided to keep its hotel doors open after all.

Hong Kong Entertainment chair Wai Chan has assured Tinian Mayor Joey P. San Nicolas that Tinian Dynasty is here to stay and will continue to serve the people of Tinian and the CNMI.

"This news will encourage

all the people of Tinian to remain optimistic and to look forward to a brighter future," Chan said in his letter to San Nicolas dated Sept. 28.

Tinian Dynasty was expected to close before the end

**See DYNASTY
on Page 4**

CPA opts to bid out airport concession

By JAYSON CAMACHO
jayson_camacho@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

In a 4-2 vote, the Commonwealth Ports Authority board has decided to bid out the master concession currently being held by Duty Free Saipan/T-Galleria at the Francisco C. Ada/Saipan Interna-

tional Airport.

CPA board members led by chair Jose Lifofoi, Kimberlyn King-Hinds, Roman Tudela, and Barrie Toves voted yes to put out a request for proposal on a successive master concession of up to 20 years.

See CPA on Page 4

Teen's 'selfie' lands him in jail

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

A teenager who allegedly stole a wallet and a cellphone from two tourists was identified and arrested after he took self-portraits or "selfies" with

the phone, not knowing it had an application that allowed the owner to track and access its contents remotely.

Carl Steve Coronel Aldan, 18, was arrested on Friday in San Antonio for theft.

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LOCAL

The Korean Association of Saipan celebrates their Thanksgiving holiday, Chuseok.

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LOCAL

The Northern Marianas Trades Institute promotes about 51 students.

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LOCAL

The Guam National Guard presents donations to CNMI soldiers.

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Car Show Specials
Island Summer Auto Fest



ONE DAY SALE

Local

Chinese community celebrates Mid-Autumn Festival



FRAULEINE S. VILLANUEVA
Lanterns lit the Carolinian Utt in Garapan as the Chinese Association of Saipan celebrated the Mid-Autumn Festival. Floating lanterns were also released to the sky and the sea.

By FRAULEINE S. VILLANUEVA
frauline_villanueva@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Some 200 people gathered at the Carolinian Utt in Garapan last Saturday to celebrate the Mid-Autumn Festival.

“This festival gathers together families for a ‘harvest dinner,’” Chinese Education Center principal Rose Chan said.

Organized by the Chinese Association of Saipan, the utt was adorned with colorful lanterns, while about 200 lanterns were given to the children who attended the event.

The festival is also known by names such as the Lantern Festival, Mooncake Festival and Harvest Moon Festival traditionally celebrated on the 15th day of the eighth month in the Chinese calendar.

Aside from the hanging paper lanterns, the association also lit about 30 floating lanterns that were released at sea, and some that were released to the sky. As is tradition, the sky lanterns had

wishes on them.

“The one thing that’s very special for our team is we have the sky lanterns,” Chan said. “In the sky lanterns, we had a wish for all Saipan people to be happy and healthy.”

According to Chan, their organization has been doing this in past years but only for the education center. This time they invited other families as well. The last time they did a big event was more than 10 years ago.

“Typhoon Soudelor is hurting everybody and having a bad time, so we invited everybody to just enjoy and welcome the moon,” Chan said.

Aside from the lanterns, the people also enjoyed food such as moon cakes and fruits, which they also got to take home.

Chan said she is happy that the event was a success despite the rainy weather. “The kids were singing songs; the people enjoyed flying the lanterns, everybody’s happy.”

Korean community celebrates Thanksgiving festival

By FRAULEINE S. VILLANUEVA
frauline_villanueva@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Korean Association of Saipan celebrated their Thanksgiving holiday, Chuseok, at the Saipan World Resort last Sunday, with hundreds sitting down to a festive dinner party with

family and friends.

Chuseok is the Thanksgiving and harvest festival of Korea, which is traditionally celebrated for three days.

In his welcome address, KAS president Hong Kyun Kim acknowledged the hardships that their members went through after Typhoon Soudelor.

“I, as the president of KAS, am truly sorry for whatever you had to go through to try to save and restore what we had in our lives on Saipan before it hit us. Even though KAS has tried its best to be there for our Korean community as much as it could, I do understand that it wouldn’t be enough,” Kim said.

“We still have a long way to go, but we have to be one and

we will show everyone the Korean power and dignity in rebuilding and restoring what we accomplished here in the CNMI,” he added.

Aside from song and dance numbers performed by various individuals and groups, an awarding ceremony was also held to recognize certain key individuals.

Plaques of appreciation were given to the former president and founder of KAS, Tony Lim, to KAS member YongGeun Jin who contributed a lot to the Korean Athletics and Soccer Association, and to Asiana Airlines Saipan general manager SungNam Park.

Firefighters and police officers were also given plaques of appreciation: Police Officer

Il Peter Aguon Alan, Police Officer Il Catherine Basa Pangelinan, Fire Fighter Il Patrick Ogo, and Fire Fighter I Joaquin T. Camacho.

KAS also officially appointed Janet H. King as their legal counsel.


Among the guests who attended the event were representatives of the Korean Consulate in Guam, including general consul Sang Don Yoon and officer NeungGab Park. Former KAS presidents such as Tony Lim, Young Chan Kim, and MinHee Won were also present.

ChangHo KI’m from LaoLao Bay Golf and Resort, KwangJung Kim from Tan Holdings, SoYoung Hong from T Galleria Saipan, and YongChan Kim and ByungChul Kim from Korean Community School of Saipan also attended.



FRAULEINE S. VILLANUEVA

The Korean Association of Saipan gathered Sunday night for a festive dinner and party in celebration of their thanksgiving festival, Chuseok, at Saipan World Resort.



Northern Marianas Protection & Advocacy Systems, Inc. (NMPASI)

REQUEST FOR COMMENTS

NMPASI hereby seeks comments and/or suggestions from the community on how to improve upon its proposed Statement of Goals & Priorities for fiscal year 2016 as follows:

Northern Marianas Protection & Advocacy Systems, Inc. (NMPASI)
STATEMENT OF GOALS AND PRIORITIES
(FY 2016)

[CLIENT/COMMUNITY SERVICES]

GOAL 1: To provide legally-based advocacy services on behalf of individuals with disabilities and their families in the CNMI.

Priority 1.1: Facilitate appropriate advocacy and provide direct representation for eligible individuals with disabilities in the community (at least one more than the previous fiscal year).

Priority 1.2: Facilitate sufficient technical assistance to individuals with disabilities. Family members of individuals with disabilities and other members of the general community at large.

Priority 1.3: Facilitate appropriate representation for un/underserved individuals with disabilities (including but not limited to those living in institutions or other housing facilities).

GOAL 2: To advance the understanding of and appreciation for Protection & Advocacy services and disability-related issues in the CNMI.

Priority 2.1: Facilitate opportunities for the community to engage in learning about disability-related issues.

Priority 2.2: Promote the understanding of local and federal disability laws:

Priority 2.3: Foster local capacity in self-advocacy for individuals with disabilities.

[ADMINISTRATION/OPERATIONS]

GOAL 3: To enhance the quality of protection & advocacy services and the efficiency of the organization's operations.

Priority 3.1: Maintain an efficient, effective and legally-complaint administrative operation.

Priority 3.2: Maintain an effective, diverse and knowledgeable staff and board of directors.

Priority 3.3: Ensure sufficient and sustainable funding in support of organization's mission.

For anything further, please feel free to contact the NMPASI Office at (670) 235-7273/4 [tel.] / 235-7275 [fax] / 235-7278 [tty] or contact us on-line at www.nmpasi.org.

*NMPASI, a local non-profit organization, administers grant funds from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS)/Center for Mental Health Services (CMHS)/Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA), the Administration on Developmental Disabilities (ADD), and the Human Resources Services Administration (HRSA), the U.S. Department of Education (DOE)/Rehabilitation Services Administration (RSA), and the Social Security Administration (SSA).

Man dies, male teen taken to hospital for near drowning

An unidentified man died, while a male teenager was taken to the hospital for near drowning in separate incidents at Smiling Cove Marina and Sugar Dock on Sunday.

Department of Fire and Emergency Medical Services spokesman Derek Gersonde said the dead person was described as from the Federated States of Micronesia.

Gersonde said the teenager, who is a Chinese national, was

taken to the Commonwealth Health Center's emergency room.

Gersonde said DFEMS received a call on Sunday at 4:40pm from an unidentified male caller, stating he needed an ambulance at the American Memorial Park.

Medics from the Garapan Fire Station responded and came upon the patient at Smiling Cove Marina at 4:45pm.

Emergency medical technicians observed the patient was

conscious but showing signs of respiratory distress. As they were checking him, the patient's condition deteriorated—he lost his pulse and was no longer breathing. EMTs performed cardio-pulmonary resuscitation until they arrived at CHC.

At CHC's emergency room,

CPR was continued. At 5:15pm, a doctor pronounced the patient dead. The cause of death was not mentioned in the report.

Gersonde said there was no information as to what happened to the person.

In the other case, DFEMS received a call from an unknown

male person who requested an ambulance at Sugar Dock on Sunday at 1:30pm.

Medics from Garapan Fire Station came upon the Chinese teenager at 1:33pm.

Bystanders stated that the victim was pulled out of the water five minutes prior to the medics' arrival.

Gersonde said medics noted

that the boy's face was already bluish and showed signs of near drowning.

The boy was conscious with a low oxygen reading so he was given oxygen and rushed to CHC emergency room.

Gersonde said they have no information regarding the boy's condition as of yesterday. **(Ferdie de la Torre)**

Deadline extended to respond to divert project's 'findings of effect'

By **DENNIS B. CHAN**
dennis_chan@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The U.S. Air Force has extended a deadline to respond to their "findings of effect" for a proposed divert airfield project on Saipan and Tinian, the Office of the Governor confirmed yesterday.

"Yes, the extension was granted," press secretary Ivan Blanco told *Saipan Tribune* yesterday.

That means consulting parties will have until Oct. 29 to review and respond to the Air Force's findings, from an original deadline of Oct. 15. The Office of the Governor was informed of the extension last Saturday.

The findings of effect are essentially the Air Force's assessment of how a proposed "CNMI Divert Airfield" project would affect historical properties on Saipan or Tinian. The findings—released in August—are part of the Section 106 process of the National Historic Policy Act, which mandates federal agencies to assess their impacts on historical properties.

In August, the Air Force, through Col. Michael R. Cardoza, shared their latest proposed findings. "The Air Force finds that the proposed action would have no direct adverse effect on contributing elements to the Aslito/Isley Field, on the Saipan Landing Beaches [a national historical landmark], Aslito/Isley Field, Marpi Point National Historic Landmark [NHL] or other historic properties on Saipan," writes Cardoza in his August letter.

"However, the USAF finds that certain proposed actions in the various alternatives could have an adverse effect on the American Administration-period West Field site on Tinian and possible indirect adverse effect on the setting and feeling of the Aslito/Isley Field National Historic District on Saipan," Cardoza adds.

The Air Force and local consulting parties have scheduled conference calls to discuss the effects of the divert project this October. The first one is scheduled on Oct. 1.

Waiter accused of rape, pleads guilty; gets two years in prison

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Mark Lester David, a former restaurant waiter accused of raping a female friend after a drinking session at her home following her birthday celebration, pleaded guilty yesterday and was slapped with a two-year prison term.

David pleaded guilty to sexual assault in the third degree as part of a plea deal. He was represented by attorney Janet H. King.

Superior Court Associate Judge Joseph N. Camacho sentenced the 31-year-old David to the maximum of five years imprisonment, all suspended except for two years without the possibility of parole and early release. David was given credit for seven months of time served.

Upon completing his prison term, David will be placed on probation for three years. He was ordered to pay \$25 in court costs and \$96.80 in restitution to the victim for lost wages.

Camacho ordered the clerk of

court to provide a copy of the sentence order to U.S. Department of Homeland Security-Immigration and Custom Enforcement. David is a citizen of the Philippines.

Police said that David groped the victim on March 20, 2015, as she was sleeping. There was no sexual penetration. The victim was not injured and did not require any medical care/assistance.

According to police reports, David and the victim, along with two other friends, finished their drinking session at 2am last March 20. After an hour, David returned to the apartment unit of the victim, but she walked back to her bed and fell asleep because she was intoxicated.

At 6am, the victim was awakened when she felt someone touching her privates. She told David to stop, while kicking and pushing his face. She then realized she was already semi-naked and told David to leave her apartment. David was arrested later that night. He denied raping her.

Feeder 7 is hot, one feeder to go

By **DENNIS B. CHAN**
dennis_chan@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Feeder 7—the main power lines running from the local power plant up north beyond As Matuis—has been reenergized over the weekend, acting Commonwealth Utilities Corp. executive director John Riegel told *Saipan Tribune* yesterday.

That means only one feeder,

Kiya 4, remains to be powered up. That feeder comes off the Chalan Kiya substation and energizes the lines southward to the intersection of the Chalan Kanoa post office.

"Feeder 7 is energized," Riegel said over the phone yesterday. "Kiya 4 is hot down to Ada Gym."

He added that CUC has taken offline all the U.S. Army Corps

of Engineers generators supplied by the federal government to power water wells.

"That is progress," Riegel said. CUC still has an Army Corps generator at one of their lift stations.

In terms of water generation, Riegel said CUC is at about 80 percent. "...By the end of the week, we are hoping to get to 90 percent capacity," he said.

Riegel said a little over 200 power poles—both new


wooden poles and used concrete poles—arrived and were offloaded last Saturday, as CUC continues purchasing critical utility supplies to bring the grid back to full capacity after Typhoon Soudelor left the CNMI in a state of disaster.

Riegel said they have ordered 600 transformers to aid in recovery, and another 200 reconditioned transformers on top of this. About 45 transformers arrived last week.


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House passes bill to give \$920K to CHCC dental program, Medicaid local matches

By DENNIS B. CHAN
dennis_chan@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

A special “cancer fund” account was zeroed out in an appropriations measure passed by the House of Representatives yesterday in order to move money to aid the local hospital’s dental and Medicaid programs.

That special “cancer fund” was created through a provision in public law last year that gave 3 percent of excise taxes to cancer treatment and programs.

Gov. Eloy S. Inos earmarked a projected \$970,000 for fiscal year 2016 for the account. That amount was projected revenue eyed by lawmakers during budget talks over the last several weeks. While withdrawn from the eventual compromise budget bill, it was agreed in “good faith” to introduce the measure in the House.

Rep. Angel Demapan (R-Saipan) introduced the bill and urged for first and final reading yesterday.

The bill, H.B. 19-101, appropriates \$520,000 from the cancer fund to support programs of the Commonwealth Healthcare Corp. and the CNMI Medical Referral Services program.

Rep. Antonio Sablan (Ind-Saipan) offered two amend-

ments to the bill, one of which was for \$250,000 for Medicaid local matching funds for new federal initiatives that lawmakers said could result in \$2.25 million from the federal side, under a 90-to-10 cost-share initiative, according to Demapan.

Demapan said under regular Medicaid program it is 55-to-45 percent cost-share. “This is a great opportunity to really see our money make the most out of the matching fund,” he told reporters after the House passed the bill unanimously to applause from the attending public.

“In order to participate in that program, the government has to be able to match 10 percent. We are matching \$250,000 in order to make \$2.2 million” for the federal match.

That \$2.2 million would go to Medicaid coverage on top of what they already have, Demapan said.

Sablan told reporters his amendment was part of a request by the administration to support a CNMI match for Medicaid coverage.

“The initiative is to provide improvement to data gathering and information,” Sablan said.

Sablan’s other amendment was to move \$200,000 from

the account to the Commonwealth Cancer Association.

Margaret Torres Aldan, director of the Department of Public Health, spoke during public comments in support of the bill.

“Why keep the Public Health dental clinic open when there are private clinics that accept Medicaid participants? I will tell you why,” she told lawmakers. “The public health dental clinic is the only dental clinic with school program. These are school programs that provide preventive oral health services including education and follow-up care to our children enrolled in the Head Start program and the elementary schools, including Rota and Tinian.

“Our young adults are dying of oral cancer,” Aldan said in her remarks. “From the cancer registry, there are 25 young adults diagnosed with oral cancer from 2007 to 2014. Out of this 25, twenty-three have expired due to complications of oral cancer.

“...The public health dental clinic is the only clinic that provides dental services to the uninsured. No one is turned away.”

Dr. Adam Gentry, chief den-

tist for CHCC, said his work at CHCC Dental has been “eye-opening” and urged passage of the bill.

“I’ve seen things that I would have never seen had I worked this position in the States,” he said, noting the state of oral cancer on island.

“...We see almost on a weekly basis the amount of oral cancer that just walks into our door. [These patients] have never been seen by anyone else.”

“Just in the last week, we’ve had four cases that walked into our door,” he added.

“We ask for some of this funding because we serve almost as secondary emergency room for CHCC, because of our close coordination with both pediatrics, with family care clinic, with emergency room, with the women’s clinic. They refer a lot of their patients down to us when it refers to an oral screening especially oral cancer related,” he said.

“We are the last stop for patients before they are referred off-island for care that they couldn’t see here,” he said, referring to general anesthesia for small children that have high need for dental restoration, and special care for both children and adults.

TEEN

From Page 1

Police said the suspect denied stealing any iPhones from Saipan World Resort, claiming that a friend who was with him at the hotel sold him an iPhone.

At yesterday’s initial appearance hearing, Superior Court Associate Judge Joseph N. Camacho imposed a \$5,000 cash bail and set the preliminary hearing for Oct. 2 at 9am.

Assistant public defender Cindy Nebit was appointed as counsel for Aldan. Assistant attorney general Shannon Foley appeared for the government.

Police detective Daniel Maliuyaf stated in his report that two Korean male tourists went swimming last Aug. 30, leaving their belongings under one of the umbrellas at Saipan World Resort.

When the two got out of the pool, they discovered that their wallets containing \$246 in cash and an iPhone 5—with a total value of \$1,050—were missing.

Maliuyaf said that World Resort human resource manager Miriam Seman met with a police detective last Sept. 10, to

follow up on the case.

Seman told the detective that the victims emailed them pictures of the suspect that the latter allegedly took from the stolen phone.

The victim’s iPhone has Apple iCloud that features Find My Phone, which enables users to track, access, and edit the contents of phones, iPad, or Mac remotely.

Maliuyaf said he learned from a hotel staff that Aldan, the son of a Corrections officer and is always seen at the hotel, was the same person in the photos.

Aldan’s photo on Facebook was also then turned over to HR manager Seman.

The hotel resort’s sales marketing manager disclosed that he received an email from their office in Korea containing photos of Aldan.

The sales marketing manager learned that the person who stole the iPhone took selfies, not knowing that the phone is connected to the victim’s Apple iCloud account.

After seeing Aldan’s photos, the victim emailed them to World Resort, police said. The court then issued an arrest warrant for Aldan.

DYNASTY

From Page 1

of this month after Chan wrote to San Nicolas last Sept. 1 of its imminent full closure, about two weeks after it shuttered its casino doors.

Hong Kong Entertainment owns Tinian Dynasty.

“I know in the last few months the situation here at the TDHC has been difficult at times and this has caused your [San Nicolas] good office to suspend projects and lay off employees at your offices and other government agencies. ... [We] will strive to ensure that the doors of the Tinian Dynasty remains open,” Chan said.

San Nicolas said that Tinian Dynasty’s decision to remain open is good news in the wake of public and private appeals by the mayor and the municipality to Tinian Dynasty officials to keep the hotel doors open.

As a result of the casino operations’ closure, San Nicolas recently laid off about 20 municipal employees whose positions were funded by casino revenues. Other businesses on Tinian also felt the impact, including Star Marianas Air, Inc., which recently announced it was laying off 17 employees and will be operating shorter hours.

Although it hasn’t been confirmed yet whether the casino will also reopen, the municipality hopes it will.

“This is great news for our community and I thank the Dynasty for their continued commitment to Tinian. Supporting the Dynasty is not just about supporting our casino industry. Tinian has very limited hotel rooms. We can’t promote any large tourism related activities such as the triathlon or the

Pika Festival if we don’t have any rooms to accommodate our guests,” San Nicolas said. “This allows us to continue developing our tourism industry.”

He stressed that keeping the hotel doors open was equally essential to the CNMI’s tourism economy.

Marianas Visitors Authority managing director Perry Tenorio earlier said that Tinian has 365 room nights available each month.

“Based on our weighted averages of pax per room and length of stay, Tinian could support approximately six international narrow body flights a week with up to 200 seats per flight, assuming an industry average 85 percent load factor and 80 percent hotel occupancy,” Tenorio said.

“The MVA continues to promote Tinian with our industry partners in China, Taiwan, Korea, and all our source countries, both via tour packages as well as targeting free independent tourist travelers booking their own travel,” he added.

However, Tenorio stressed that Public Law 18-1 provides the funding for the MVA to do this, and PL 18-1 has also been providing funding passed directly through to the municipality to promote charter flights.

“If international visitors were able to fly direct to Tinian, I expect the economic landscape on Tinian would be significantly stronger,” he said.

When Chan announced Tinian Dynasty’s closure earlier this month, he said they didn’t have the “necessary capital resources of business revenue to sustain the hotel and were currently operating at a significant loss and couldn’t afford to do so any longer.”

CPA

From Page 1

CPA’s master concession agreement grants the winner of the bid the right to operate facilities at the Saipan airport that sell duty-free merchandise

Board members Pete Reyes and Thomas Villagomez both voted, saying they want CPA to negotiate with DFS, citing its loyalty to the agency.

Toves explained that putting the master concession to a bid would give way for CPA management to consider a bill that would amend the statute of operating a master concession that would involve all three islands, for all six point of entries (seaports and airports on Saipan, Tinian and Rota).

Under Public Law 4-60, CPA can only enter into three prescribed concession agreements: duty-free retail concession, a master concession, and non-duty-free concession agreement.

The duty-free retail concession agreement grants the exclusive right to operate facilities at a port of entry to deliver duty-free merchandise.

The master concession, currently in place between DFS and CPA, grants the exclusive right to operate facilities—at each and every port—for sale of duty-free merchandise or any other items.

A non-duty free concession can be used with a duty-free retail concession or separately,

at a single port of entry, to sell exclusively all or specified non-duty-free merchandise.

Despite a small confusion on whether it will be for all three islands, Toves clarified that CPA was not in the position to negotiate or separate the three islands due to Public Law 4-60.

Toves made the motion to bid out the master concession as it would be the only option to sit down and negotiate the terms to separate the issues and separate the three islands.

“If we RFP that out, it will give us the opportunity to realize a heavier potential for us to gain something back,” Toves told board members.

This would inevitably allow any, including DFS, to bid for a master concession. DFS’ contract with CPA expires on Nov. 13, 2015.

Although they are not shutting its doors to DFS, the CPA board said DFS is more than welcome to submit its proposal.

Toves said that even after the expiration date, things will go on as usual with regards to DFS’ operation at the Saipan airport until such time that a selection is made.

“For the RFP package, we need a lot of time for us to work and we really need an airport consultant on board to help us out on that. It is going to take time,” he said.

Best interest

Tudela explained to board members that they do have in-

terested companies that want to bid on the master concession, including DFS.

According to Toves, when they filed a report back in December, they were anticipating that the board had already relieved the ad hoc committee of its duties for the board to make the decision on whether to renegotiate with DFS or RFP it out.

Earlier this year CPA published a study by consultant Ricondo & Associates on the Saipan International Airport’s concession program and leasing strategies. That study recommended a choice of three options: a successor master concession agreement; a pure duty free retail concession; and a master concession on an upfront payment basis to help fund specifically identified capital needs.

While DFS has remained steadfast to continue its master concession, CPA has not ruled out dialogue with other parties.

Lotte Duty Free, for one, sent a letter in October 2014 expressing interest in entering a bid once CPA approves an RFP for the local airport concession facilities.

Lotte Duty Free challenged DFS’ bid for the Guam airport concession and won. Guam International Airport Authority announced in May 2013 that it had entered into a specialty retail concession agreement with Lotte Duty Free Guam LLC.

King-Hinds said she supports DFS but, at this point, they have to think big with re-

Wife of alleged hostage-taker says she wasn't hurt

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Gordon Aldan Castro, the 27-year-old man who allegedly held his family hostage for seven hours at his house in Afetnas, was already sleeping when members of the Department of Public Safety's Special Enforcement and Action Section entered the house on Sunday morning.

Police detective Therese S. Kintoki stated in her report that when SEAS officers got into the house at 5:46am, Castro was asleep on the couch beside his common-law wife while their two minor children were on the other side of the couch.

Rapadas resigns as chief prosecutor

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Leonardo M. Rapadas resigned as chief prosecutor effective last Friday, *Saipan Tribune* learned yesterday.

Office of the Attorney General information officer Carla Torres confirmed with the *Saipan Tribune* that Rapadas has resigned and that Attorney General Edward Manibusan has tapped assistant attorney general Chester Hinds to serve as acting chief prosecutor.

Rapadas told *Saipan Tribune* last night that he was honored to be asked by Manibusan to be the first chief prosecutor for the first elected AG but he needs to take care of personal matters in Guam.

"It was an honor and a pleasure working with him. But

NMC explores more funding sources

By **JAYSON CAMACHO**
jayson_camacho@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Northern Marianas College is looking for other funding opportunities to better serve the college's vision, mission, and goals to attract and keep students coming to NMC.

NMC president Dr. Sharon Hart said one of the biggest funding opportunities she found during a recent trip to the U.S. mainland is under the U.S. Department of Education.

"The U.S. DOE has a program called SERV, and it stands for School Emergency Response to Violence. That project is open to any institution that would meet their requirements. It is not a competitive grant because they have set aside money for any institution that would reach their requirements," Hart said.

Hart also told NMC board members about funding opportunities that the college could avail off to improve majority of their programs.

"They extend the SERV program to the point to allow institutions like us to get funding there. My goal when I visited the U.S. was to start finding funding opportunities," she said.

Kintoki said the wife and two children, ages 9 and 3 years old, were escorted out and were examined by medics, while Castro was arrested and brought to the Department of Corrections.

Castro allegedly held a kitchen knife to his wife's neck, threatened to kill her if police wouldn't leave, and refused to release his two children during the seven-hour hostage drama that began on Saturday at 10:42pm.

At a bail hearing yesterday, Superior Court Associate Judge Joseph N. Camacho imposed a \$26,500 cash bail and set the preliminary hearing for Oct. 6 at 1:30pm.

Castro faces charges of assault with a dangerous weapon,

there are things happening back home that require my attention," he said.

When pressed on what's happening in Guam, Rapadas said he needs to deal with a civil lawsuit filed against a former employee when he served as AG.

Rapadas said this is the longest he has ever stayed in the CNMI.

"I'm just enjoying every moment of it. Who knows, given the opportunity again, I could be back again," he said.

Rapadas took his oath as chief prosecutor only in March. He served as U.S. Attorney for the U.S. Districts of Guam and the NMI from 2003 to 2010. He also served as Guam AG from 2011 to 2015.

When Manibusan took the position as the first CNMI elected AG, he immediately hired Rapadas as chief prosecutor.

Although NMC has lost its only grant writer, Rita Chong, NMC is already seeking to fill the position, she said.

"At the same time, we are strategizing because this is our time to write significant amounts of grants. We have other employees here that will be involved. The SERV grant [will] bring a strong learning environment back to the college," she said.

Hart noted that they could tap the SERV grant, which can go from \$250,000 to over \$1 million and can last from 18 to 24 months.

"It is important for us to get moving on these right away," she said.

The American Council on Education grant is another potential source of funding.

"We are now hoping to get scholarship doors open. They are helping us and those funding will be for students and the facilities," Hart said.

She said she also talked to several people who could help the college.

"We have given our foundation [the task] to focus on funding opportunities for community colleges and there are other various organizations that we can avail of funding resources," she said.

on, kidnapping, assault and battery, and disturbing the peace. Assistant public defender Cindy Nebit was appointed as his counsel.

Assistant attorney general Shannon Foley appeared for the government.

When Camacho directed Castro to have no contact with his wife and children, the wife, who was seated in the courtroom, asked why her husband couldn't have any contact with her, saying she was not hurt during the incident.

Camacho stopped the wife from making further comments. Nebit later talked to the wife.

Kintoki said two police officers arrived at Castro's house on Saturday at 11:12pm after DPS Central received a call about a disturbance at 10:42pm.

Kintoki said one officer

opened the door and heard Castro talking in a loud voice. When the officer called out Castro's name, Castro responded by telling the officer to call more officers because he was holding his family hostage. Castro told the officer that he had a weapon and that his family was with him.

The officer called DPS Central to request for back up. At 11:42pm, three more officers arrived. One officer heard a girl saying, "Let go of my mommy. Don't hurt my mommy!"

Police officer Rudolfo Hermosilla Jr. knocked on the door and identified himself. Hermosilla heard children crying and a woman, later identified as Castro's common-law wife, saying "You're hurting me, let me go!"

A little girl was heard say-

ing, "What are you doing to my mommy, let my mommy go, you're hurting my mommy!"

Hermosilla knocked on the door and asked Castro if he was okay.

Castro responded that he was not okay and that someone is going to die that day. He stated he had a weapon—a knife.

The wife was then heard saying that Castro was hurting her.

The girl told the officer that she's 9 years old and that with them is her 3-year-old brother.

Hermosilla positioned four officers at the door and, upon opening it, he saw Castro sitting on the sofa with his forearm on the neck of his wife and her back against his chest. Castro was holding a knife with his right hand pressed against the side of his wife's neck.

Castro told Hermsilla that he's going to kill her. The officer told him to put the knife down. The girl, who was cry-

ing, was sitting on the floor to Castro's left.

Hermosilla closed the door and told the other officers to pull back. He heard the girl again, begging Castro not hurt her mother.

Hermosilla told Castro to relax and put the knife down because he already closed the door. He kept talking to Castro, resulting in the suspect calming down.

Hermosilla tried to convince Castro to release the children, but he kept saying "no."

Castro later stated that the children were already sleeping. The wife already sounded calm as she was talking to Hermsilla.

Crime scene technician officer Jeffrey Bahillo arrived and negotiated with Castro. Bahillo gave Castro his cellphone number so they could communicate.

At 5:46am, SEAS officers entered the house and arrested Castro.



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Saving Saipan: Rose Smith and Empty Vessel Ministry

By THOMAS MANGLONA II
tamanglona@gmail.com
CORRESPONDENT

Editor's Note: Saipan Tribune's latest series features everyday heroes who are taking part in recovery efforts and assisting those in need after Typhoon Soudelor devastated Saipan. We end this series with the story of Rose Smith and her work with the Empty Vessel Ministry.

Rose Smith, 42, founded Empty Vessel Ministry, a faith-based organization, over a decade ago, with the focus of assisting orphans in Smith's home country of Kenya. However, since moving to Saipan in 2006, Smith has since expanded the ministry to include assisting families in need in the Northern Mariana Islands.

Her passionate humanitarian work has evolved into an islandwide movement originating from EVM's outreach store in Gualo Rai.

"As an organization our commitment is to help families in

need and so our focus in the immediate aftermath of the storm was to focus on those effected," she told *Saipan Tribune*. "It only took a few hours for Soudelor to pass through but families will be affected for months so it's important not to lose that focus."

Although some of the charity's own volunteers fell victim to the typhoon, they still continue to contribute to relief efforts, Smith said.

"The work simply could not be done without all of the volunteers and we are so grateful to work with them," she added.

Countless volunteers under Smith's organization have distributed clothing, medical supplies, tents, shoes, food, water, and household items. Empty Vessel recently joined forces with organizations such as the American Red Cross, and in doing so, has distributed a total of 12,000 articles of clothing to typhoon survivors.

"The need was so great there was initial concern that our



Rose Smith, founder of Empty Vessel Ministry, poses for a photo with volunteers while distributing relief supplies. CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

shelves would soon be empty, but donations started coming in and we have a lot of clothes and shoes and other accessories to help families," Smith said. "... There are still many needs that only friends and neighbors can fill. I know that many residents have been generous in helping their neighbors."

Smith recounted hearing a story from a survivor that she will never forget: "A mother that I know, her house was destroyed and they are living with friends but the son was traumatized by the storm because they thought they wouldn't make it when the typhoon ripped off their roof. Now, when it rains, the boy becomes worried, asking his mother if they are safe."

Smith said that it is part of the foundations' commitment to help in times of need.

"The assistance we can provide comes from the donations of so many in our community and we want to say thank you so much for your generosity," she added.

NMTI promotes 51 students

By JAYSON CAMACHO
jayson_camacho@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Northern Marianas Trades Institute promoted about 51 students under its hotel and restaurant and culinary arts programs yesterday afternoon.

Twenty-six hotel and restaurant operations students and 25 culinary arts were presented their certificates at the Hyatt Regency Saipan.

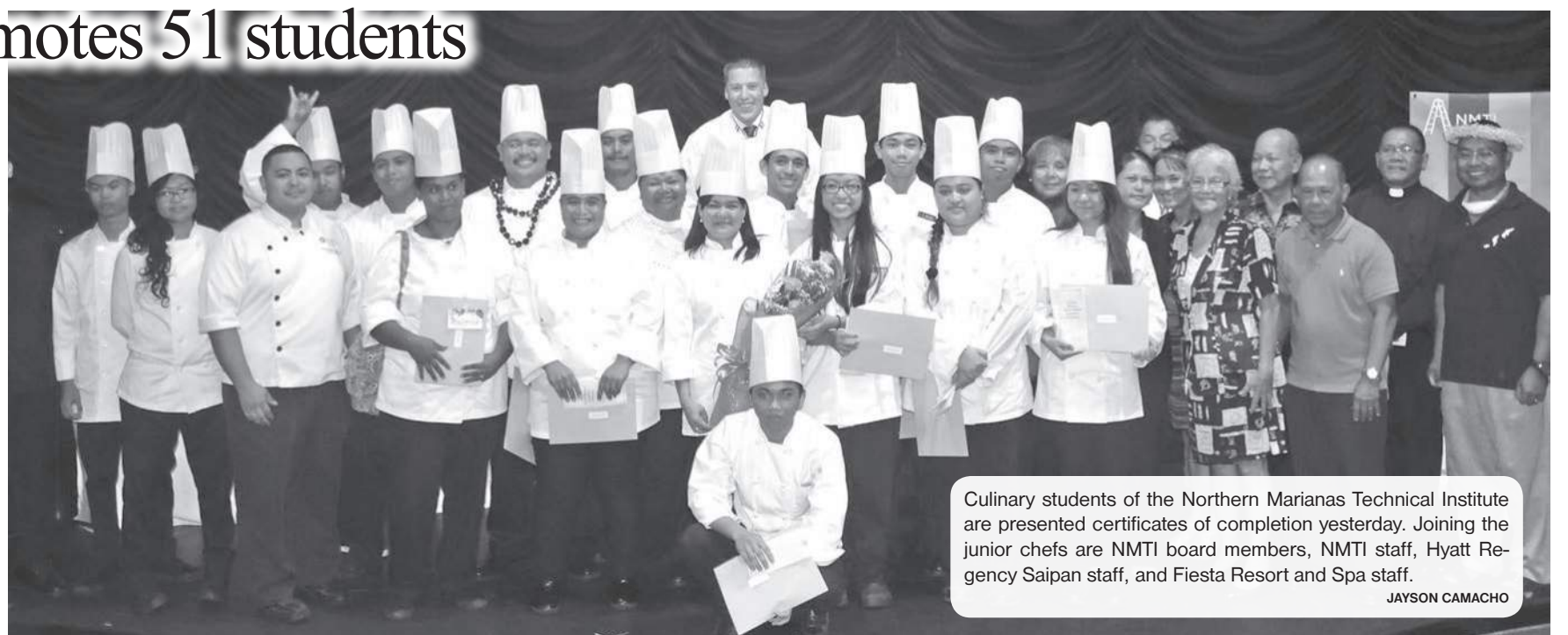
The students went through 180 classroom hours and 240 hours internship for the hotel and restaurant operations program and 84 classroom hours and 240 hours internship for the culinary arts program.

Two students each from both programs were chosen to give remarks about their experiences during their course and internship.

Donovan Castro, a culinary arts student, said that before he started the program under NMTI, he was looking forward to going abroad to pursue culinary arts.

"For the longest time I have been passionate about cooking. I started at the age of 10, baking and cooking as well at the age of 16, then I hit a wall, not knowing where to go, so I wanted to go to the U.S.," Castro said. "When I saw NMTI in the newspaper offering a culinary arts program, I said to myself, 'Why not apply at NMTI?' I don't need to go abroad. I was so excited. ... It is a good program and I encourage a lot of people with the talent of cooking to pursue it."

Eleanor Tenorio, who was under the hotel and restaurant operations program, said she first tried to enter the hotel industry two years ago when she applied with a local hotel and went through the interview pro-



Culinary students of the Northern Marianas Technical Institute are presented certificates of completion yesterday. Joining the junior chefs are NMTI board members, NMTI staff, Hyatt Regency Saipan staff, and Fiesta Resort and Spa staff.

JAYSON CAMACHO



Hotel and restaurant operations students of the Northern Marianas Technical Institute are joined by NMTI board members and staff, Hyatt Regency Saipan staff, and Saipan and Northern Islands Municipal Council chair Antonia Tudela.

JAYSON CAMACHO

cess. She later received a letter telling her she wasn't accepted for the job due to her lack of education and experience. Soon after, she heard about NMTI's program in the *John Gonzales LIVE* show.

"I immediately saw the opportunity that I can pursue my education and training at NMTI and be able to qualify for em-

ployment in the hotel industry. I feel that we are fortunate and blessed that we have NMTI in our community," Tenorio said.

"...Many of us have been through so many struggles to get this far. Twenty-nine years have passed for me with all the ups and downs, but I am so happy that I finally did it," she added.

The culinary arts program, which began in 2009, prepares students for gainful employment and or postsecondary education in the food production and service industry. The hotel and restaurant operations program, which began in 2010, teaches techniques and concepts related to hotel and restaurant operations,

marketing, reservations, food and beverage services, table service, banquets, and other guest services.

NMTI board chair John Oliver Gonzales said that many of their newly promoted students have worked with Hyatt and Fiesta Resort and Spa Saipan.

"I think this is a great milestone for us in the Com-

monwealth as we continue to work with training them and getting them into jobs. We not only train in the classroom but also hands-on internship," he added.

NMTI chief executive officer Agnes McPhetres said they will soon be inking apprenticeship agreements with two other hotels.



AP

In this May 12, 2009, file photo, bigeye tuna line the floor of the United Fishing Agency's auction house in Honolulu.

Environmentalists ask court to stop shift in Hawaii tuna quota

HONOLULU (AP)—Environmentalists on Friday asked a federal judge to stop the National Marine Fisheries Service from allowing Hawaii-based fishermen to attribute some of the bigeye tuna they catch to U.S. territories.

They argue the agency is enabling the fishermen to circumvent international agreements aimed at controlling the overfishing of a popular tuna species known as ahi.

Earthjustice attorney David Henkin told U.S. District Court Judge Leslie Kobayashi the fisheries service acted illegally when it created a framework allowing Hawaii longline fishermen to record some of their catch as having been caught by fishermen in Guam, the Northern Mariana Islands and American Samoa.

"This is allowing them to fish without limits," Henkin said of Hawaii fishermen during a hearing in federal court for a motion Earthjustice filed on behalf of the Conservation Council for Hawaii and other environmental groups.

Bradley Oliphant, a U.S. Justice Department attorney who argued on behalf of the fisheries service, said the agency carefully studied the environmental effects of the quota transfer. He said the arrangement meets the requirements of U.S. fisheries and environmental laws.

The 26-member nation Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission, which regulates fishing from east and southeast Asia to waters around Hawaii, set a limit of about 3,500 metric tons for Hawaii longline fishermen this year. That's about 7 percent less than last year.

The National Marine Fisheries Service enforces these limits in the U.S. This year, the Hawaii fishery reached its annual limit in August, several months earlier than in the past.

The agency has also proposed rules that would allow Hawaii longline fishermen to bring in more bigeye tuna by shifting some of their catch to territorial fleets, which do not face the same limits from the commission.

In exchange, the Hawaii longline fleet would pay the territories money to support the development of local fisheries.

The agency has put similar rules in place in recent years after Congress, in a 2012 appropriations bill, directed the agency to create a quota transfer program. The late Sen. Daniel Inouye of Hawaii was Senate appropriations committee chairman at the time the bill was passed.

Lawyers in the case explained to Kobayashi their views on the validity of the agency's quota shifting rule, whether Congress' directive was still applicable or had lapsed and what federal fisheries laws require the agency to do.

Kobayashi gave the attorneys two weeks to file additional arguments.

The Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission counts major fishing nations such as Japan, Taiwan, South Korea and the U.S. among its members along with small island states such as the Marshall Islands. About 40 percent of the global supply of bigeye is caught in waters regulated by the commission.

Hawaii longline fishermen—who string long lines in the ocean from which they run shorter lines with baited hooks—account for only 1.6 percent of the bigeye caught in this region. U.S. purse seine boats also catch bigeye in the area. They use giant nets to surround and scoop up masses of fish.

Bigeye is one of two types of tuna known as ahi. The other is yellowfin.

Hotel occupancy rate at 83 percent last August

The Hotel Association of the Northern Mariana Islands reported 82.75 percent occupancy among 11 member hotels for August 2015, a 2-percent decrease compared to August 2014.

A total of 58,470 of 70,659 available room nights sold in August 2015, compared to 58,479 of 71,393 of available room nights sold over the same period last year. Room rates were \$139.92 during the month, compared to \$146.51 last August.

"Understandably, we saw a dip in hotel occupancy in August due to Typhoon Soudelor and the temporary closure of the

Saipan International Airport," said HANMI chair Gloria Cavanagh. "However, the decrease was minimized as rooms left vacant by visitor cancellations were filled by locals without power and off-island emergency responders."

So far this calendar year, hotel occupancy is at an average 86 percent, 1 percent higher than last year. Additionally, average room rates have increased by 6 percent compared to the same period last fiscal year.

"As we see from Typhoon Soudelor, tourism is a sensitive industry," said Cavanagh. "We're disappointed to see

funding being diverted from the Marianas Visitors Authority and marketing in the proposed fiscal year 2016 budget. In the long run and for economic stability, we know it would be wiser to re-invest in the breadwinner of the CNMI economy—the MVA—as we continue to rebuild and strengthen the tourism economy in preparation for the unexpected."

The Hotel Association of the Northern Mariana Islands, celebrating its 30th anniversary this year, was established in 1985 as a professional forum for the hospitality industry of the NMI. (HANMI)

WIOA Dislocated Worker Funding Program

If any of these categories apply to you, please contact WIA.

Category A: General Dislocated Workers. To qualify, an individual must meet the following three criteria:

1. Has been terminated or laid off, or has received a notice of termination or layoff, from employment;
2. Is eligible for or has exhausted entitlement to unemployment compensation; OR has been employed or attached to the workforce for a duration sufficient to demonstrate to WIOA, but is not eligible for unemployment compensation due to insufficient earnings or having performed services for an employer that were not covered under a state unemployment compensation law; and
3. Is unlikely to return to a previous industry or occupation.

Category B: Plant Closure. To qualify, an individual must meet one of the following three criteria:

1. Has been terminated or laid off, or has received a notice of termination or layoff, from employment as a result of any permanent closure of, or any substantial layoff at, plant, facility, or enterprise;
2. Is employed at a facility at which the employer has made a general announcement that such facility close within 180 days; or
3. For purpose of eligibility to receive services other than training, intensive or supportive services under WIOA, is employed at a facility at which the employer has made general announcement that such facility will close.

Category C: Self Employed or Unemployed. To qualify, an individual must meet the following criteria:

1. Was self employed (including employment as a farmer, a rancher, or a fisherman) but is unemployed as a result of general economic conditions in the community in which the individual resides or because of natural disasters.

Category D: is a displaced homemaker;

DISPLACED HOMEMAKER—The term "displaced homemaker" means an individual who has been providing unpaid services to family members in the home and who—

- (A) (i) has been dependent on the income of another family member but is no longer supported by that income; or (ii) is the dependent spouse of a member of the Armed Forces on active duty (as defined in section 101(d)(1) of title 10, United States Code) and whose family income is significantly reduced because of a deployment (as defined in section 991(b) of title 10, United States Code, or pursuant to paragraph (4) of such section), a call or order to active duty pursuant to a provision of law referred to in section 101(a)(13)(B) of title 10, United States Code, a permanent change of station, or the service-connected (as defined in section 101(16) of title 38, United States Code) death or disability of the member; and
- (B) is unemployed or underemployed and is experiencing difficulty in obtaining or upgrading employment.

Category E:

1. Is the spouse of a member of the Armed Forces on active duty (as defined in section 101(d)(1) of title 10, United States Code), and who has experienced a loss of employment as a direct result of relocation to accommodate a permanent change in duty station of such member; or
2. Is the spouse of a member of the Armed Forces on active duty and who meets the criteria described in Displaced Homemaker Definition (B).

You may be able to qualify for services under WIOA's Dislocated Worker Funding Program. All other program eligibility requirements apply.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Saipan: (670) 664-1704/1707/1708/1757 • **Fax:** (670) 664-1710
Email: gov.wia@pticom.com

This community outreach ad is funded by a grant made possible under the USDOL Employment and Training Administration.

Guam Guard present donations to CNMI soldiers

Service members of the Guam National Guard, airmen and civilian employees pulled together after learning CNMI was hit hard by Typhoon Soudelor, causing a trail of destruction on Saipan on Aug. 2, 2015. A team was put together to organize a boot drive donation to assist CNMI soldiers and their families serving in the Guam Army National Guard. Last week, members of the Family Readiness Support Group, including team leaders from the Guam Army National Guard and Guam Air National Guard, traveled to Saipan and presented their generous donations to the soldiers at Kanoa Resort on Sept. 21, 2015.

Most of the 19 soldiers and their families on Saipan were present and were very appreciative as they received the donations. Soldiers that live on Tinian also received the donations.

SPC Andrew Delos Reyes and SPC Andrean Reyes, who are both currently off-island attending the Wentworth Mil-



Guam Army National Guard soldiers that reside in the CNMI pose with members of the Guam Guard's Family Readiness Group after accepting donations at the Kanoa Resort on Saipan on Monday, Sept. 21.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

civilian employees and FRSG volunteers for their continued efforts to help their fellow soldiers and their families. I look forward to seeing them when I go back to Guam for our monthly training."

Salas-Igitol, who is currently the CNMI Family Readiness Support Group coordinator and spouse of one of the soldiers, SPC Ivan Igitol, is a full time volunteer. She continues to go beyond the call "anytime, anywhere."

"I love our soldiers. When civilians sign up for military or anything that involves protecting our country, our people and our freedom, that's sacrificing your own life and should be respected with honor. I can never repay them for what these soldiers have done and continue to do. This is why I do what I do—answer the call and go beyond the best I possibly can. To me, they are all the same... serving the same purpose. ... On behalf of the CNMI soldiers and families, we extend our profound gratitude to the Guam Army and Air National Guard and everyone involved for your generous donations and support," said Salas-Igitol. (PR)

tary Academy to commission as officers, were informed of the boot drive by CNMI FRSG Coordinator Marie Salas-Igitol. Although they couldn't

make it to the presentation, their parents were present to receive the donations on their behalf.

"With their faithful contributions over the past few weeks,

they have demonstrated a deep commitment in helping our affected families. Their support has repeatedly played a key role in our efforts to restoring our island community back to normal. There are no words to fully express my gratitude to the civil employees and Guam National Guard soldiers who took the time to answer the call for help from our affected families and service members," said Delos Reyes.

SPC Ken Orejola said the donations he received helped a lot and he won't have to think about restocking his house with

food for awhile because he got about a month of supplies.

SPC Ken Mojica, from Alpha Company, who resides on Tinian, also received a bag. "I received canned food, laundry soap, insect repellants, hygiene supplies, flashlights and batteries. It is always good to stock up on canned food as they have a long shelf life. ... Another thing I really liked about the bag of donations are the flashlights and extra batteries, which I think are one of the most essential things to have during a storm. So, I thank the Guam National Guard, airmen,

IT&E sustains cable cut in Navy Hill

IT&E notified its customers who reside or conduct business in the Navy Hill area that a contractor performing work for Twin's Market cut the IT&E underground cable yesterday. Services that may be affected are landline and DSL in nearby and surrounding areas, particularly behind Twin's

Market, Lower Navy Hill.

IT&E crews are currently working on repairing the damage as a result of the cable cut. A follow-up advisory will be released to the public with more information and updates of restoration.

IT&E would like to remind all companies, government agencies and residential customers to request for a cable location by calling 611 at least 24 hours prior to any excavation work. IT&E can assist by sending a team to identify the cable location. (IT&E)



A contractor performing work for Twin's Market cut the IT&E underground cable yesterday. Services that may be affected are landline and DSL in nearby and surrounding areas, particularly behind Twin's Market, Lower Navy Hill.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

SpongeBob to bring smiles to kids at CHC

As the excitement continues on Saipan with Docomo Pacific's Kids4Kids Carnival, the Nickelodeon character SpongeBob Squarepants will also pay a special visit to children at the Commonwealth Health Center.

"We are absolutely ecstatic about this opportunity to have our Nickelodeon character pay a visit to children at the Commonwealth Health Center [who are] in need of smiles and cheer," said Jennifer

Lai, ad sales manager for Docomo Pacific.

This special visit will take place today, Sept. 29, from 10:15am to 11am.

SpongeBob will be escorted to the children's/pediatric ward where he looks forward to making this a memorable occasion filled with lots of hugs, happiness and high fives!

Meantime, the festivities on Saipan kicked off yesterday, Sept. 28, through today, Sept.

29, at the Royal Taga Hall of the Saipan World Resort. In addition to the performances by the Nickelodeon characters, the Kids4Kids Carnival also features delicious food, games and prizes for everyone!

Tickets are still available at the reduced price of \$3.50 at Docomo Pacific locations. For more information visit Docomo Pacific on Facebook, Instagram or Twitter @docomopacificgu. (Docomo Pacific)

THE COMPASSIONATE FRIENDS OF SAIPAN

Family grief support meeting on Oct. 1

The Compassionate Friends of Saipan will be holding its monthly grief support meeting on Thursday, Oct. 1, from 6pm to 7:30pm, in the NMPASI conference room on Middle Road, in Gualo Rai.

The mission of The Compassionate Friends is to assist families toward the positive resolution

of grief following the death of a child of any age and to provide information to help others to be supportive. Today more than 600 chapters serving all 50 states plus Washington, D.C., Puerto Rico, Guam, and Saipan offer friendship, understanding, and hope to bereaved parents, siblings and grandparents, and

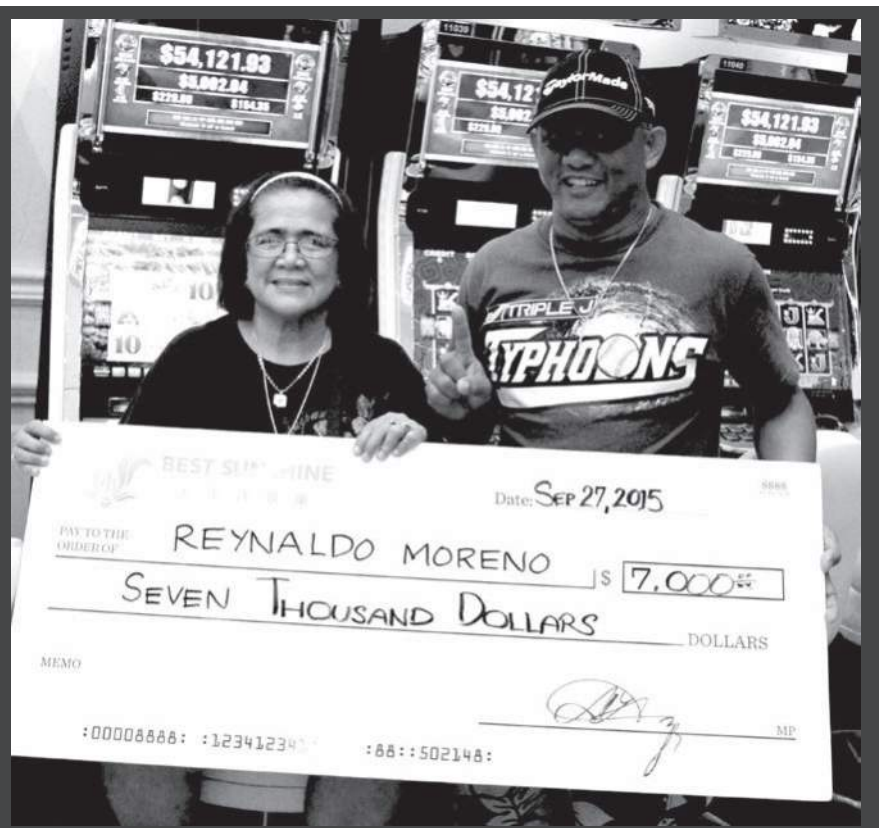
other family members during the natural grieving process after a child has died.

For more information, email tcfSaipan@gmail.com or call Jill Derickson (989-9821). To learn more about The Compassionate Friends, visit their website at www.compassionatefriends.org. (PR)

ONE LUCKY GUY

Reynaldo Moreno, shown here with his wife, hits the \$7,000 jackpot with a 60-cent bet at the slots at Best Sunshine Casino.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO



PCF to hold 5K 'Back On Our Feet' fundraiser

Nominees being sought for annual humanities awards

The Northern Marianas Humanities Council is soliciting nominations for the 2015 Governor's Humanities Awards.

This event, held annually in October as a part of CNMI Humanities Month, recognizes outstanding contributions to the humanities by individuals and organizations in the community.

Nominees should have a notable humanities achievement in the past year, as demonstrated in any of the following four categories: Research and Publication in the Humanities; Preservation of Traditional Cultural Practices; Preservation of CNMI History; and Outstanding Humanities Teacher (in both classroom and non-classroom

settings).

A fifth category, Lifetime Achievement, recognizes significant contributions to the humanities over multiple decades. This award may be given posthumously.

Nomination forms and instructions are available at the council's office in the Springs Plaza Building, Gualo Rai, or on the council website at www.northernmarianashumanities.org.

Nominations are due no later than 4:30pm on Friday, Oct. 16.

Awards will be presented during a ceremony to be held in late October.

For more information, contact council staff at 235-4785. (NMI Humanities Council)

Bank of Guam launches 9th Christmas card contest

HAGATNA, Guam—The Bank of Guam is now accepting entries for its 9th Annual Christmas Card Contest, which is open to all elementary and middle school students throughout Guam, the CNMI, Republic of Palau, the Federated States of Micronesia, and the Republic of the Marshall Islands.

"A very green Christmas" is this year's theme, which challenges students to use their imagination to make a unique Christmas card from recycled materials such as old magazines or newspapers. The winner will be featured on the cover of the 2015 Bank of Guam's Christmas

card, which is annually sent to businesses and individuals. The medium is a 4"x 6"

» **For elementary and middle school students**
 » **Contest challenges students to make a unique Christmas card from recycled materials**
 » **Deadline Oct. 9, 2015**

card entry using watercolors, pastel crayons, colored pencils, acrylic paints, old magazines and newspapers and glue.

First place will win \$250; second place is \$175; and third place, \$100. Gift baskets of school supplies will also be included with the cash prizes.

Contest rules and applications are available at all elementary and middle schools, at any Bank of Guam branches and its website, www.bankofguam.com. (Bank of Guam)

With so many damaged homes still in need of repair, the Pacific Century Fellows—Marianas Chapter, a leadership development program cohort modeled after the Pacific Century Fellows of Hawaii, is holding a 5K "Back On Our Feet" run/walk/roll event on Saturday, Oct. 3. One-hundred percent of the proceeds will go direct-

ly to CNMI C.A.R.E. (CNMI Advocates for Recovery Efforts) to rebuild homes damaged or destroyed by Typhoon Soudelor.

Registration for the 5K, which will take place on the grounds of Garapan Fishing Base (right across Kristo Rai Church), begins at 5am. The 5K itself begins at 6am from the Garapan

Public Market to Quartermaster, and will conclude with raffle prizes. Minors under 18 must have adult supervision.

Runners, walkers, and rollers are welcome.

The registration is \$15 cash/check per participant and will include a free event T-shirt and raffle ticket.

Participants can pre-register

for the event by picking up forms from the following outlets: JP Center (1st floor), Century Hotel, and Shirley's Coffee Shop (Susupe).

For more information, contact Mel Naputi at 235-0561 Ext. 118 or by email mel_naputi@tanholdings.com. You can also visit PCF 5K: Back On Our Feet on Facebook. (PR)

Marpac donates \$5,000 to the American Red Cross



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

From left, Hyatt assistant F&B director Sheji Shindo; Marpac resident manager Guy Pudney; American Red Cross CNMI Chapter executive director John Hirsh; Hyatt F&B director Tyrell Pauling; Ambros & Marpac marketing manager Casey Truong; Marpac sales manager James Lee; and American Red Cross CNMI Chapter board chair Tayna Belyeu-Camacho.

On Sept. 15, 2015, the Brewmaster Benefit Dinner was held at Giovanni's Restaurant at the Hyatt Regency Saipan. The event successfully raised \$5,000 for the American Red Cross to be used for Typhoon Soudelor relief efforts through ticket sales and a silent auction. It

was a great night of beer education and fun with George Reisch, Anheuser-Busch InBev brewmaster, a fifth generation brewmaster.

The night highlighted a staggered buffet paired with five products: Budweiser, Stella Artois, Goose Island 312, Rolling Rock, and Shock Top. The

wide array of food emphasized the subtleties of each beer brand, giving those in attendance a different way to enjoy their favorite beer.

Marpac Inc. resident manager Guy Pudney explained, "The Brewmaster event has always been a way to celebrate our products and our loyal cus-

tomers. This year, we also take the opportunity to give back to the community."

Marpac would like to extend a huge thank you to the Hyatt Regency Saipan and their whole F&B team; Triple J for generously sponsoring; and the American Red Cross CNMI Chapter. (Marpac)



FOUR-TIME WINNER

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Randy Mungical wins a total of \$2,200 at Best Sunshine's Slots Lucky Draw promo. Players get a chance to get raffle tickets on a daily basis. The raffle drawing is every Tuesday, Friday, and Saturday. The more you play, the more chances of winning.



BSI DONATION

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

The Productions Club of Marianas High School, with club adviser Jojo Alepuyo and all its club members, receive a donation from Best Sunshine International Ltd. Sixteen-year-old member John Huevos said, "Thank you, Best Sunshine, for your generous donation. It will help us with getting new equipment and putting together our school yearbook." Eighteen-year-old Jack Stewart added, "I would like to extend gratitude to Best Sunshine and how they have given hope to the Productions Club in this trying time. This donation will be utilized with care." In the photo are Matt Harkness, Best Sunshine COO, Imperial Pacific's CSO Tao Xing, BSI legal counsel Viola Alepuyo, and BSI consultant Alfred Yue.

Opinion

Hafa Adali

Saipan Tribune

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Mailing Address: PMB 34, Box 10001, Saipan, MP, 96950

Jayvee L. Vallejera EDITOR
jayvee_vallejera@saipantribune.com

Mark Rabago ASSOCIATE EDITOR
mark_rabago@saipantribune.com

MEMBER

AP The Associated Press

Pacific Islands News Association

EDITORIAL

Where are the boundaries on owning guns?

The U.S. Supreme Court ruled seven years ago in *District of Columbia vs. Heller* that the Second Amendment “conferred an individual right to keep and bear arms,” but it also said that right was “not unlimited.” Government and courts have been wrestling ever since over just how far an individual’s right goes, and a decision last week by the U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit may help draw some much-needed boundaries.

The District of Columbia has enacted stringent gun-control laws over the years, responding in large part to the city’s seemingly relentless gun violence. The 2008 case centered on a requirement that gun owners make their weapons essentially inoperable if they kept them in the house. The court tossed out that law as too restrictive, and established the individual right to keep a gun in the house for self-protection. The District of Columbia has since adopted more gun laws, drawing more court challenges.

First, the good part about the D.C. Circuit’s ruling, which doesn’t bind courts outside the nation’s capital but can influence them: It recognized that the government can require gun owners to provide a photograph and fingerprints to register a handgun because there is a legitimate public safety interest in doing so. It also said the government has the authority to require registration of long guns—shotguns and rifles. Both of those can help keep guns out of the hands of convicted felons, domestic abusers, the mentally ill and others barred by law from having them.

But the court also threw out the district’s monthly limit of one gun registration per person, which could open the door for challenges to a similar limitation here in California. And interestingly, the court rejected the requirement that a gun be presented when it is registered because doing so could risk public safety—an idea that may come into play in an unrelated case before the U.S. Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals, which hinges on whether the Second Amendment confers a right to carry a weapon in public.

This page believes the Supreme Court erred in the initial *Heller* decision by upending an interpretation of the Second Amendment that had been embraced for half a century—that the amendment’s reference to a “well-regulated militia” limits the right to keep and bear arms to organized military units, such as the National Guard. Although that decision is the law of the land, so is the government’s right to regulate ownership. As the courts continue to define what that means, they should—as the D.C. Circuit sought to do—put public safety ahead of misguided notions of an armed nation.

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Let's see what Republicans learn after Boehner

House Speaker John Boehner has announced that he'll be stepping down from his post—and his congressional seat—come October. In the near future, this is going to reduce the chances of a government shutdown, as Boehner, no longer worried about keeping his caucus together, can simply pass a deal with the help of as many Democrats as he needs. In the long term, however, things get a little dicier.

Boehner has spent years and years trying to corral Republican hardliners into politically feasible deals on things like the budget and taxes. I gather he's tired of it. And I don't blame him; I'd have run for the hills after the debt ceiling debacle. Or after Ted Cruz managed to deflect attention from Obamacare's failures with his pointless shutdown stunt. Or gosh, name a day in the past four years, really.

But for the rest of us, there's the worrying question of what comes next. Does the caucus nominate a leader who will be itching for more such fights? This would be bad for America's already dilapidated political institutions and civil society. It would also, I must point out, be bad for the Republican Party, which still shows lingering signs of infection by the dreaded “Ask for the Stars, You'll Get the Moon” bargaining strategy. (Ever notice that's so beloved by Hollywood, and by almost no one who actually has to negotiate deals for a living?)

The idea behind this is that you will eventually settle for something about halfway between your initial demands, and what the other side is asking for. The winning strategy is therefore to ask for enormous concessions, include unrealistic demands as bargaining chips, and convince the other side that you're just crazy enough to walk away if they won't make a deal.

As it happens, we have just had a demonstration of this technique—a live drama, no Hollywood effects: Greek Prime Minister Alexis Tsipras tried it with the EU. This strategy worked so well that he ended up with a worse deal than the original offer, plus a banking crisis that is still unspooling. Somehow, this never happens in Hollywood movies.

It's easy to see why Hollywood loves this strategy: It's really easy to explain without chewing up screen time, and it's dramatic. Why don't real-world negotiators more often do this?

All negotiations are defined by something called the ZOPA: the zone of possible agreement. The boundaries of that zone are defined by another buzzword, the BATNA: the best alternative to negotiated agreement.

The ultimate deal has to be better for both sides than their BATNA. Anything that either side considers worse than no deal at all is outside of the ZOPA, and no amount of strategy is going to get you there. Getting rid of Social Security and Medicare: outside of the ZOPA. Raising tax rates to Danish levels: outside of the ZOPA. Single-payer health care: outside of the ZOPA. Defunding Planned

By MEGAN MCARDLE

Bloomberg View

Megan McArdle is a Bloomberg View columnist. Readers may send her email at mmcardle3@bloomberg.net.



Parenthood: outside of the current ZOPA.

Is the ZOPA fixed? Nope. If a Republican president were in the White House, and a few more Republicans were in the Senate, defunding Planned Parenthood might well be feasible. The massacre in Newtown, Conn., moved the ZOPA on gun control leftward. The financial crisis made all sorts of previously unthinkable things—like TARP and a nearly \$900 billion stimulus bill—eminently feasible. The ZOPA moves all the time, which is why we're no longer debating the free and unlimited coinage of silver at a ratio of 16 to 1.

But note that these movements didn't come from some sort of deft negotiation strategy. They came from external events that changed the BATNA of one side or the other. Note too that even though the ZOPA had shifted in his favor, President Barack Obama lost on gun control because he included an assault weapons ban in his list of demands as a bargaining chip, and the other side decided to walk away instead of negotiating a deal.

How did this happen? Because the bargaining chips you include send signals about your intent, and how serious you are about negotiating—and they can therefore change the facts on the ground in ways that hurt you rather than help you.

Imagine that you tried negotiating for a car by announcing that you intended to pay no more than \$2,400 for a fully-loaded new truck. Would this improve your bargaining position? Of course not; the salesman would decide that you were wasting his time and go find another customer. Similarly, if the car salesman announced that he wanted \$100,000 for a well-used Camry, that wouldn't make you more willing to pay \$30,000 for it; it would make you go seek a dealer who wasn't obviously crazy.

In Greece's negotiations with its creditors, Tsipras's party, Syriza, was sending the signal that it was willing to walk away from the euro rather than accede to what it considered to be excessively stringent creditor demands. This actually ended up worsening Greece's negotiating position in three ways. First, it eroded the already none-too-strong faith that the creditors had with Greece as a partner. Second, it made various non-Greek electorates mad, making it harder

See BOEHNER on Next Page

The Enlightenment keeps on winning

If you study history, you'll see episodes that changed civilization.

For example, in Ancient Greece, for the first time, bright thinkers sought natural explanations for the world around them, instead of believing that phenomena were caused by gods and spirits. This started the science-versus-religion clash that still roils 25 centuries later.

Here's another landmark: Around three centuries ago, major thinkers began advocating democracy, human rights and personal freedoms. Their period became known as the Enlightenment. It launched the long-running liberals-versus-conservatives conflict still driving much of today's politics.

Thomas Hobbes (1588-1679) wrote that life can be "nasty, brutish and short" unless people bind themselves into a "social contract" under a government that protects them. Hobbes implied that kings don't rule by divine right, and that ultimate authority lies with the citizenry. Bishops tried to have Hobbes executed as an atheist, but Hobbes burned his papers and sometimes hid in exile.

John Locke (1632-1704) denied that kings are chosen by God, and recommended the separation of church and state to prevent faith-based wars and massacres. An early advocate of democracy, Locke argued that government must rest on consent from the governed.

Baron de Montesquieu (1689-1755) proposed a democratic republic with powers split among executive, legislative and judicial branches.

Voltaire (1694-1778), a witty French writer, was thrown in prison for mocking a regent—then emerged to become a lifelong crusader against abuses by ruling nobles and clerics.

America's founders—Thomas Jefferson, John Adams, James Madison, Benjamin Franklin, etc.—were brilliant radicals who absorbed Enlightenment ideas and incorporated them into the first

modern democracy. Less-known founder George Mason insisted on a Bill of Rights to protect each person from government and the tyranny of the majority.

The Enlightenment's premise that every individual deserves personal freedoms also spawned The Rights of Man and the Citizen in France, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights by the United Nations, and other moral codes.

The Enlightenment not only produced modern democracy, it also laid the foundation of liberal political values still winning victories today. For three centuries, by fits and starts, Western progress has been mostly a chronicle of progressives defeating conservative resistance. Reformers repeatedly toppled old privileges, hierarchies and establishments. Look at the historical record:

Conservatives tried to retain slavery, but they lost.
They tried to block voting by women, but they lost.
They tried to prevent couples from using birth control, but they lost.
They tried to obstruct Social Security pensions for oldsters, but they lost.
They tried to outlaw labor unions, but they lost.
They tried to prevent unemployment compensation for the jobless, but they lost.
They tried to keep stores closed on the Sabbath, but they lost.
They banned alcohol during Prohibition, but they eventually lost.
They tried to sustain racial segregation, but they lost.
They supported government-mandated prayer in school, but they lost.
They tried to continue throwing gays in prison, but they lost.
They tried to defeat Medicare and Medicaid, but they lost.
They tried to halt the sexual revolution, but they lost.
They opposed food stamps for the poor, but they lost.
They fought against equal human rights laws, but they lost.
They tried to censor sexy magazines, books and movies, but they lost.

Border rhetoric, and reality

By **KARTHICK RAMAKRISHNAN** and **PRATHEEPAN GULASEKARAM**
LOS ANGELES TIMES

Of all the issues that have bubbled up on the campaign trail so far, nothing has inspired absurdity quite like immigration. Donald Trump isn't the only Republican candidate to have made outlandish comments: Chris Christie has called for FedEx-like tracking of foreigners, and Carly Fiorina has endorsed a crackdown on Chinese birth tourism.

If the stakes were low, such rhetoric wouldn't matter much. But of course the stakes are high, and millions of Americans who follow political news as entertainment could end up believing simplistic talking points or even outright misinformation.

Here are some of the biggest absurdities from the GOP primary trail:

Pregnant women crossing the border. Trump has claimed that women who are not only pregnant but actually nine months pregnant are crossing the border to have their children in the U.S. What he hasn't mentioned is that Customs and Border Protection officers may take pregnancy into account in determining whether a migrant is likely to comply with visa restrictions. And, needless to say, women in late stages of pregnancy would have a difficult time evading ports of entry and attempting more dangerous border crossings.

Trump has also said that children born to these late-term border

crossers remain a fiscal drain on the U.S. for 85 years or more. It's true that the children of immigrants may present fiscal costs in the short term, as any newborn would, but they produce significant fiscal benefits after entering the workforce, including extending the life span of Social Security.

Asian birth tourism. Fiorina has said birth tourism is a festering problem in Southern California. However, the reality is that the Obama administration and local authorities have cracked down on the industry, and many in local law enforcement report fewer complaints than in years past. Even the conservative Center for Immigration Studies estimates the total number of birth tourists a year to be less than 1 percent of all births in the U.S.

Tracking of foreigners. Christie has repeatedly called for a biometric system that would track foreigners on visas and "tap them on the shoulder" when their time is up. Such a program would not only represent extreme governmental intrusion into peoples' daily lives, it would also be cost prohibitive. Remember, millions come to the U.S. each year on temporary visas, including tourist and student visas. Indeed, Congress considered a far more modest program in 2007—tracking when people leave the U.S.—and ruled it out because of its financial cost.

Fortifying the U.S.-Mexico border. Several candidates, including Trump, Ben Carson and Ted Cruz, have endorsed the construction of a massive wall or fence along the entire U.S.-Mexico border. But 700 miles of fences and walls already exist, and as past studies have indicated, these fortification solutions are only partly effective in

By **JAMES A. HAUGHT**
Tribune News Service



James A. Haught is editor emeritus of West Virginia's largest newspaper, The Charleston Gazette-Mail. Readers may reach him by email at haught@wvgazette.com or phone at 304-348-5199.

They sought to jail girls and doctors who end pregnancies, but they lost.

They tried to block liquor clubs and lotteries, but they lost.

They tried to prevent expansion of health insurance through the Affordable Care Act, but they lost.

They tried to halt same-sex marriage, but they lost.

On and on, through recurring cultural battles, progressive principles that began in the Enlightenment have prevailed. For three centuries, liberals generally have won, conservatives lost.

What will be the next front in the culture war? Legal marijuana? Pistol registration? Free college? Whatever comes, it's probably safe to predict the eventual winner.

Martin Luther King Jr. said: "The arc of the moral universe is long, but it bends toward justice." However, some University of Michigan scholars recently concluded that the notion of "the right side of history" is a myth—there's no guarantee that future events will extend past democratic breakthroughs. Terrible reversals could occur.

Nonetheless, the transformation loosed by the Enlightenment is a fact. I hope the progressive pattern keeps rolling forever.

detering illegal immigration. Not only are migrants able to evade fences by digging tunnels or getting smuggled in in vehicles, any fortification would have no effect on those who enter the U.S. legally and overstay their visas. Research has shown, moreover, that increased border enforcement has stopped the decades-old practice of circular migration among Latin American immigrants, prompting more immigrants who entered illegally to remain in the United States.

Immigrants as violent criminals. Despite Trump's famous pronouncement to the contrary, a wide range of studies indicate that immigrants, including Mexican immigrants, are less likely than the native-born to commit violent crimes or to be incarcerated.

Immigration is a complex policy area involving many different programs and types of legal status. It is precisely because of this complexity that idle speculation and simplistic solutions can lead to significant distortions in public opinion that are at odds with reality.

Although we might not expect politicians to produce a more accurate picture—especially if inaccuracy is advantageous to their campaigns—at the very least we should expect news organizations to respond quickly with hard facts. Only then can we hope that the years-long discussion on immigration will lead to actual solutions.

Karthick Ramakrishnan, a professor of public policy at UC Riverside, and Pratheepan Gulasekaram, an associate professor of law at Santa Clara University, are coauthors of The New Immigration Federalism. They wrote this for the Los Angeles Times.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

What is the true intent of BSI?

I'm writing to question the true intent of the "biggest investor" of the CNMI, Best Sunshine. As everyone knows, Best Sunshine promised as part the casino license agreement that it will complete two phases of investment: Phase I, a hotel and casino in Garapan, followed by a much larger phase II, with over 2,000 hotel rooms. At the groundbreaking of Phase II and every year thereafter, a \$20 million community chest fund will be released.

In recent months, the market value of Best Sunshine's parent company, Imperial Pacific, has dropped as much as 60 percent as the result of Typhoon Soudelor and the financial market downturn. In addition, after a year of receiving the casino license, the company hasn't produced any meaningful plan for Phase II.

The situation raises the question: Does Best Sunshine have the financial strength and the intention to complete the investment it promised in the casino license agreement? Will the CNMI ever receive the yearly \$20 million community fund? Will this be another empty promise the CNMI has seen before?

Oliver Liu
Beijing, China

BOEHNER

From Page 10

for their finance ministers to offer Greece concessions. And third, it triggered a banking crisis that meant the Greeks urgently required assistance from the same folks that they were trying to threaten. Angry creditors came back with a worse deal, and Greece had no choice but to accept.

What lessons should Republicans in the House draw from this, as they look to choose their next leader?

■ The main obstacle to getting what they want is not the lack of leaders who are willing to fight; the main obstacle to getting what they want is that what they want is well outside the ZOPA. I'm not saying this to taunt my conservative friends; I agree with many of the things they want. But I recognize that there is a wide gap between what I (we) want, and what can be foisted upon the American public by its elected representatives. If I want outcomes closer to my preferences, then the primary problem is not the folks in office, but the preferences of the average American voter. Focusing your attention on politicians, instead of the hearts and minds of your fellow citizens, is like attempting to fix a faulty car engine by swapping out the dashboard gauges.

■ Intransigence and bold demands do not necessarily get you closer to what you want; they often push you further away. Next year, Republicans will be trying to take back the presidency. A Congress that shuts down a few times or spends all its time passing

strong, base-pleasing bills that can't get past the Senate, much less the president's veto pen, is not going to improve their chances. And for all the complaints about candidates who are Republican in name only, any of them would deliver more of what the party wants than Hillary Clinton would.






■ This is really a return to the first: "more of what the party wants" is all you're going to get. You're not going to get it all. You live in a country with 300 million people, many of whom have very different desires than you, and, well, welcome to representative democracy. Republicans who currently enjoy their House majority thanks to the previous majority's Obamacare suicide charge should know this better than anyone.

Now, perhaps such a suicide charge would be worth it, to lock in some policy preferences. But note that even getting to the point where the Light Brigade can ride bravely into the Valley of Death requires the presidency and large majorities in both House and Senate. Which are going to be hard to achieve if the hardliners start rattling their sabers a year before the 2016 election.

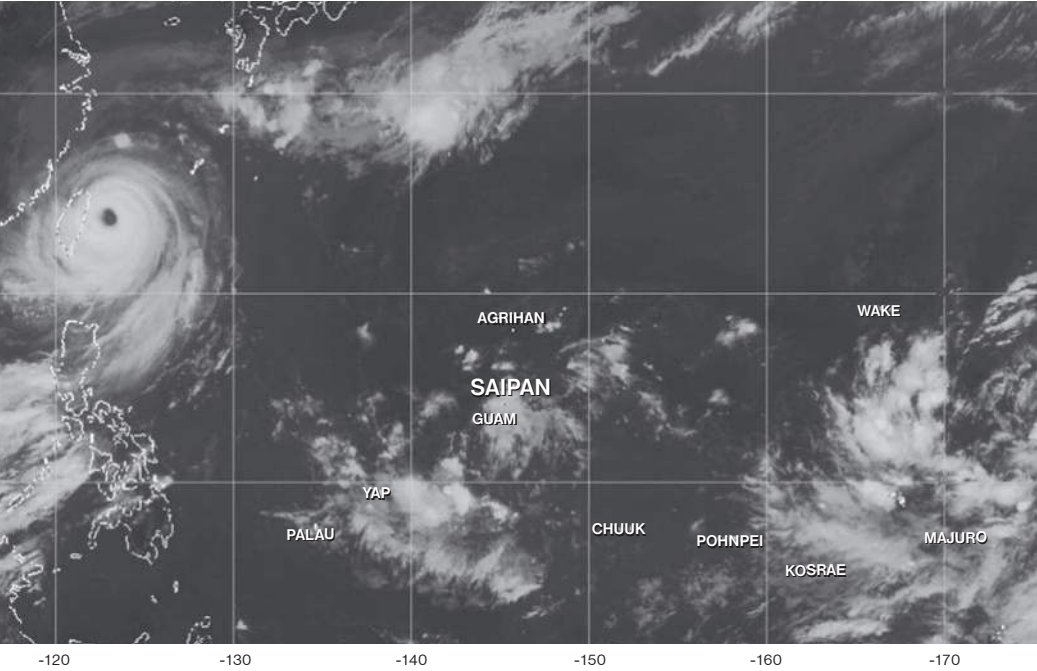
But maybe the only way Republicans will learn their limits is by crashing into them, as the Greeks did. Maybe they need to elect someone who will try what they've been longing for: a full throated, take-no-prisoners approach that doesn't bother with compromise or concession. Like the Greeks, they'll discover that this leaves them worse off, not better. If Republicans can't see that coming—if they can't learn from Syriza's mistake—then they will very likely learn their lesson from President Hillary Clinton.

The Weather

5-Day Forecast for Saipan and Tinian

TODAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				
Partly sunny with isolated showers and thunderstorms. East winds 10 to 15 mph.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers. East winds 5 to 10 mph.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.
▲88° ▼77°	▲88° ▼77°	▲86° ▼77°	▲88° ▼77°	▲88° ▼77°

Yesterday's Satellite Image



PICTURE TIME: 1:00PM, MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 28, 2015

Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

A monsoon trough runs eastward from a tropical disturbance centered south of Guam near 9N146E to a larger disturbance centered northeast of Majuro near 12N175E. Scattered showers and a few thunderstorms near the Marianas are between 10N and 14N from 144E to 149E and across Yap state within 150 miles of a line from 12N137E to 5N146E. Scattered showers and a few thunderstorms are in patchy areas from across Kosrae State, Tarawa and the Marshall Islands to southeast of Wake Island between the equator and 16N from 160E to the date line.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

Micronesia			
Guam And Rota	Partly Sunny	▲87	▼77
Palau	Mostly Cloudy	▲88	▼76
Yap	Mostly Cloudy	▲83	▼77
Chuuk	Mostly Cloudy	▲84	▼75
Pohnpei	Mostly Cloudy	▲87	▼76
Kosrae	Mostly Cloudy	▲82	▼75
Majuro	Mostly Cloudy	▲82	▼76

Around the Globe			
Auckland	Mostly Sunny	▲60	▼43
Beijing	Mostly Cloudy	▲62	▼55
Hong Kong	Sunny	▲92	▼69
Honolulu	Partly Cloudy	▲80	▼69
London	Clear	▲64	▼50
Los Angeles	Mostly Sunny	▲87	▼58
Manila	Partly Sunny	▲87	▼78
Melbourne	Mostly Sunny	▲61	▼43
Miami	Cloudy	▲88	▼75
New York	Partly Cloudy	▲78	▼69
Osaka	Sunny	▲77	▼53
Paris	Mostly Sunny	▲65	▼43
Busan	Sunny	▲77	▼53
Rome	Partly Cloudy	▲70	▼52
Salem	Sunny	▲79	▼46
San Francisco	Partly Sunny	▲67	▼54
Seoul	Cloudy	▲78	▼48
Tokyo	Fair	▲72	▼60
Washington, DC	Showers	▲79	▼71



NMI CRIME STOPPERS

Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:

- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- *11 on any IT&E cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.com

Tides			
Saipan Harbor			
3:09 AM	Today	Low Tide:	0.1 Feet
9:13 AM	Today	High Tide:	2.1 Feet
3:31 PM	Today	Low Tide:	0.3 Feet
9:19 PM	Today	High Tide:	2.1 Feet

Sunrise/Sunset		
Today	6:07 AM	6:08 PM
Wednesday	6:07 AM	6:08 PM
Thursday	6:07 AM	6:07 PM
Friday	6:07 AM	6:06 PM
Saturday	6:07 AM	6:05 PM

Moonrise/Moonset		
Today	7:10 PM	6:54 AM
Wednesday	8:02 PM	7:56 AM
Thursday	8:55 PM	8:57 AM
Friday	9:48 PM	9:57 AM
Saturday	10:42 PM	10:55 AM

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FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF JULY 2, 2015

DEPARTURES			
SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)			
UA5070	4:15am	5:05am	Daily
UA5068	8:00am	8:50am	3
UA5068	8:40am	9:30am	1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 7
UA5039	2:20pm	4:00pm	6, 7 via Rota
UA5078	3:10pm	4:00pm	1, 5
UA5038	3:10pm	4:00pm	2, 4
UA5040	6:55pm	7:45pm	1, 5
UA5078	8:35pm	9:25pm	2, 3, 4, 6, 7
UA5044	10:40pm	11:30pm	1, 5

SAIPAN-ROTA (ROP)			
UA5039	2:20pm	2:55pm	6, 7

ROTA (ROP)-GUAM (GUM)			
UA5039	3:25pm	4:00pm	6, 7

SAIPAN-PALAU (ROR)			
DL287	6:05am	1:05am+1	2, 6 via NRT

SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT)			
DL287	6:05am	8:40am	1, 4, 5, 6
DL297	4:30pm	7:15pm	Daily

SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)			
OZ626	2:20am	6:00am	1
OZ6063	2:25am	6:00am	3, 4, 6
OZ626	3:20am	7:00am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7
7C3403	4:35am	8:20am	1, 2, 3, 6, 7
7C3403	5:25am	9:10am	4, 5
7C3401	3:15pm	7:35pm	3, 5, 6
7C3401	4:20pm	8:05pm	1, 2, 4, 7

SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)			
OZ608	3:10am	6:20am	4, 7

SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)			
3U8648	6:10am	8:40am	1, 4, 5, 7

SAIPAN-BEIJING (PEK)			
MU764	1:30am	5:30am	3, 5, 7

SAIPAN-GUANGZHOU (CAN)			
3U8646	4:20am	7:30am	2, 6

SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)			
OZ626/701	2:20am	11:05am	1 via ICN
OZ6063/701	2:25am	11:05am	3, 4, 6 via ICN
OZ626/701	3:20am	11:05am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
UA5070/191	4:15am	8:55am	2, 3, 6, 7 via GUM
UA5070/PR111	4:15am	9:20am	Daily via GUM
UA5070/183	4:15am	8:50pm	2, 5 via GUM
UA5070/183	4:15am	9:10pm	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM
DL287/275	6:05am	9:40pm	1, 2, 4, 5, 6 via NRT
UA5068/183	8:00am	9:10pm	3 via GUM
UA5068/183	8:40am	8:50pm	2, 5 via GUM
UA5068/183	8:40am	9:10pm	1, 4, 6, 7 via GUM
UA5039/183	2:20pm	9:10pm	6, 7 via Rota-GUM
UA5038/183	3:10pm	8:50pm	2 via GUM
UA5078/183	3:10pm	8:50pm	5 via GUM
UA5078/183	3:10pm	9:10pm	1 via GUM
UA5038/183	3:10pm	9:10pm	4 via GUM

SAIPAN-HONG KONG (HKG)			
OZ626	2:20am	6:00am	1
OZ6063	2:25am	6:00am	3, 4, 6
OZ626	3:20am	7:00am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7
OZ626/721	2:20am	11:50am	1 via ICN
OZ6063/721	2:25am	11:50am	3, 4, 6 via ICN
OZ626/721	3:20am	11:50am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
UA5070/179	4:15am	9:55pm	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM
UA5068/179	8:00am	9:55pm	3 via GUM
UA5068/179	8:40am	9:55pm	1, 5, 6 via GUM
UA5039/179	2:20pm	9:55pm	6 via Rota-GUM
UA5078/179	3:10pm	9:55pm	1, 5 via GUM

ARRIVALS			
GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN			
UA5069	2:45am	3:35am	Daily
UA5071	6:40am	7:30am	3
UA5071	7:15am	8:05am	1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 7
UA5039	1:00pm	1:50pm	6, 7
UA5038	1:00pm	2:35pm	2, 4 via Rota
UA5077	1:50pm	2:40pm	1, 5
UA5041	5:35pm	6:25pm	1, 5
UA5077	7:15pm	8:05pm	2, 3, 4, 6, 7
UA5043	9:20pm	10:10pm	1, 5

GUAM (GUM)-ROTA (ROP)			
UA5038	1:00pm	1:35pm	2, 4

ROTA (ROP)-SAIPAN			
UA5038	2:05pm	2:40pm	2, 4

PALAU (ROR)-SAIPAN			
DL298	4:30am	2:55pm	3, 7 via NRT

NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN			
DL298	10:25am	2:55pm	Daily
DL288	8:55pm	1:25am+1	3, 4, 5, 7

SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN			
7C3402	8:45am	2:15pm	3, 5, 6
7C3402	9:30am	3:20pm	1, 2, 4, 7
OZ625	7:40pm	1:10am+1	7
OZ6053	7:55pm	1:25am+1	2, 3, 5, 6
OZ625	8:20pm	1:50am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
7C3404	10:10pm	3:40am+1	Daily

BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN			
OZ607	9:05pm	1:55am+1	3, 6

SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN			
3U8647	10:40pm	5:00am+1	3, 4, 6, 7

BEIJING (PEK)-SAIPAN			
MU763	4:30pm	12:30am+1	2, 4, 6

GUANGZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN			
3U8645	7:40pm	3:00am+1	1, 5

MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN			
DL276/288	9:30am	1:25am+1	1, 3, 4, 5, 7 via NRT
UA190/5077	9:55am	8:05pm	2, 3, 6, 7 via GUM
OZ702/625	12:15pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
OZ702/6053	12:15pm	1:25am+1	2, 3, 5, 6 via ICN
OZ702/625	12:15pm	1:50am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
PR110/UA5071	10:05pm	7:30am+1	3 via GUM
PR110/UA5071	10:05pm	8:05am+1	1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 7 via GUM
UA184/5071	10:25pm	8:05am+1	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM
UA184/5039	10:25pm	1:50pm+1	6 via GUM
UA184/5038	10:25pm	2:40pm+1	1, 3 via GUM-Rota
UA184/5077	10:25pm	2:40pm+1	4, 7 via GUM
UA184/5041	10:25pm	6:25pm+1	4, 7 via GUM
UA184/5077	10:25pm	8:05pm+1	1, 3, 6 via GUM
UA184/5043	10:25pm	10:10pm+1	4, 7 via GUM
UA184/5071	11:30pm	7:30am+1	2 via GUM
UA184/5071	11:30pm	8:05am+1	5 via GUM
UA184/5071	11:30pm	1:50pm+1	5 via GUM
UA184/5077	11:30pm	8:05pm+1	2, 5 via GUM

HONG KONG (HKG)-SAIPAN			
OZ722/625	1:10pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
OZ722/6053	1:10pm	1:25am+1	2, 3, 5, 6 via ICN
OZ722/625	1:10pm	1:50am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
UA180/5071	9:55pm	8:05am+1	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM
UA180/5039	9:55pm	8:05am+1	5 via GUM
UA180/5077	9:55pm	2:35pm+1	1, 3 via GUM-Rota
UA180/5077	9:55pm	8:05pm+1	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM

LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); 3U: Sichuan Airlines; MU: China Eastern; UA: United Airlines; DL: Delta Airlines; OZ: Asiana; 7C: Jeju AirETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. The Saipan Tribune is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)

STAR MARIANAS AIR, INC.

TINIAN TO SAIPAN		
DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
7:00AM	7:15AM	Mon, Tue, Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat
7:30AM	7:45AM	Daily
8:30AM	8:45AM	Daily
9:30AM	9:45AM	Daily
10:30AM	10:45AM	Daily
11:30AM	11:45AM	Daily
12:30NN	12:45NN	Daily
1:30PM	1:45PM	Daily
2:30PM	2:45PM	Daily
3:30PM	3:45PM	Daily
4:30PM	4:45PM	Daily
5:30PM	5:45PM	Daily
6:30PM	6:45PM	Daily

SAIPAN TO TINIAN		
DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
7:00AM	7:15AM	Daily
8:00AM	8:15AM	Daily
9:00AM	9:15AM	Daily
10:00AM	10:15AM	Daily
11:00AM	11:15AM	Daily
12:00NN	12:15NN	Daily
1:00PM	1:15PM	Daily
2:00PM	2:15PM	Daily
3:00PM	3:15PM	Daily
4:00PM	4:15PM	Daily
5:00PM	5:15PM	Daily
6:00PM	6:15PM	Daily

SAIPAN TO ROTA		
DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
7:45AM	8:15AM	Mon, Tues, Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat
4:00PM	4:30PM	Mon, Tues, Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat
ROTA TO SAIPAN		
DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
8:30AM	9:00AM	Mon, Tues, Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat
4:45PM	5:15PM	Mon, Tues, Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat

Business

VW faces daunting challenges in fixing emissions cheating

DETROIT (AP)—Volkswagen faces daunting challenges in fixing software that enables cheating on diesel engine emissions tests, a task that's becoming more urgent because of growing anger from customers.

The company has set aside \$7.3 billion to pay for the scandal. But experts say it's likely to cost much more as VW tries to comply with U.S. clean air regulations while appeasing diesel owners who paid extra for the cars, thinking they could help the environment without sacrificing performance.

"We understand that owners of the cars affected by the emissions compliance issues are upset," VW said on a consumer website launched Sunday. The company asked for patience and said it would address the issue as fast as it can. A spokeswoman wouldn't comment further.

But experts said VW will have to strike a careful balance to appease government regulators, make customers happy and avoid emptying the company cash box. A cheap remedy of

Volkswagen deception

Volkswagen admitted that it intentionally installed software programmed to switch engines to a cleaner mode during official emissions testing. The software then switches off again, enabling cars to drive more powerfully on the road while emitting as much as 40 times the legal pollution limit.

Volkswagen AG stock
VW's share price was down 16.8 percent today at 111.2 euros and near a four-year low. The company has lost almost 25 billion euros two days.

Affected diesel models
The allegations cover roughly 11 million worldwide and around 482,000 diesel passenger cars sold in the United States since 2008



- Jetta (model years 2009 – 2015)
- Beetle (model years 2009 – 2015)
- Audi A3 (model years 2009 – 2015)
- Golf (model years 2009 – 2015)
- Passat (model years 2014-2015)

Graphic: Staff, TNS

software fixes likely would hurt performance and gas mileage, further antagonizing customers. A more expensive fix that adds a treatment system wouldn't hurt performance, but it would cost thousands per car and by one analyst's estimate, could total

more than \$20 billion including vehicles in the U.S. and Europe.

That's in addition to a potential \$18 billion fine in the U.S. and the cost of numerous class-action lawsuits alleging that VW's cheating reduced the value of its customers' cars.

Migration crisis proves boon for some businesses

BERLIN (AP)—People crammed into boats and trekking across borders have become the dominant images of Europe's migrant crisis. In the shadows, however, there are those who are profiting, for whom every migrant is a business opportunity.

The business of migration extends far beyond the human traffickers, who often grab migrants' money and send them on life-threatening journeys on rubber boats or in cramped trucks. It includes bus companies and shelter operators that provide essential logistical help to authorities overwhelmed by the sheer number of people in need of housing and transportation.

Telecoms companies that sell SIM cards with special contracts for cross-border calls. And petty food-and-drink vendors at train stations are even known to be price-gouging, charging migrants double or triple the amount they'd be charged in stores around the corner.

There are no overall estimates for how much the business of migration rakes in—but there's no doubting it's a multi-million dollar industry. Authorities in Germany estimate the cost of housing and feeding migrants alone at about 12,000 euros (\$13,400) per person, per year.

Entrepreneur Bert Karlsson is among those profiting from the wave of migrants coming to Eu-

rope. The record company boss and founder of a now-defunct anti-immigrant party in Sweden raised eyebrows recently when Swedish media reported that his company, Jokarjo, had billed the government 132 million Swedish kronor (\$16 million) to house asylum seekers.

Sara Sundelius, a spokeswoman for the Swedish migration service, said the government would normally house asylum seekers in regular apartments. But due to the sharp rise in numbers, some 21,000 asylum seekers are being put up in cabins, small hotels and hostels at a cost of between 250-300 Swedish Kronor per day, per person.

Brazil pledges to cut greenhouse gas emissions

STOCKHOLM (AP)—Brazil on Sunday became the first major developing country to pledge an absolute reduction in greenhouse gas emissions for an envisioned global pact against climate change.

The world's seventh biggest greenhouse gas polluter said it would cut its emissions by 37 percent by 2025 from 2005 levels by reducing deforestation and boosting the share of renewable sources in its energy mix. It also indicated an "intended reduction" of 43 percent by 2030.

"Our goals are just as ambitious, if not more so, than those set by developed countries," President Dilma Rousseff said

as she announced the targets at the U.N. in New York.

In talks on a new climate agreement, set to be adopted in Paris in December, developed countries are expected to shoulder the biggest responsibility for cutting emissions of carbon dioxide and other greenhouse gases. For example, the U.S. has pledged to reduce its emissions by 26-28 percent between 2005 and 2025.

Major developing countries such as China and South Africa have pledged to rein in their emissions as their economies expand, rather than to slash them in absolute terms.

Brazil, however, has already achieved significant emissions

cuts in the past decade primarily because of efforts to reduce deforestation in the Amazon.

Environmental groups tracking climate policy applauded Brazil for taking absolute reduction targets, but said they could have been even more ambitious.

The targets would reduce Brazilian emissions from the current level of 1.6 billion tons a year to 1.5 billion tons by 2025 and 1.3 billion tons by 2030, said Viviane Romeiro of the World Resources Institute, an environmental think tank.

"Ideally, we would have reached 1 gigaton by 2030. This pledge won't allow us to get to that number," she said.

Nation

Pope uses popularity to chart new direction for church, US

By **RACHEL ZOLL**
AP RELIGION REPORTER

In Congress and at a parish school, at the United Nations and a city jail, Pope Francis spent a whirlwind U.S. visit bridging the realms of the disadvantaged and elite, trying to turn the attention of the mightiest nation on earth away from ideological battles and toward a world he said desperately needs help.

From his very first appearance, he wove together issues that are rarely linked in American public life.

At the White House with President Barack Obama, he upheld religious freedom while seeking urgent action to ease climate change. Addressing Congress, he sought mercy for refugees, while proclaiming a duty "to defend human life at every stage of its development," a challenge to abortion rights. Standing on altars before the nation's bishops, he acknowledged the difficulties of ministering amid "unprecedented changes taking place in contemporary society," a recognition of gay marriage.

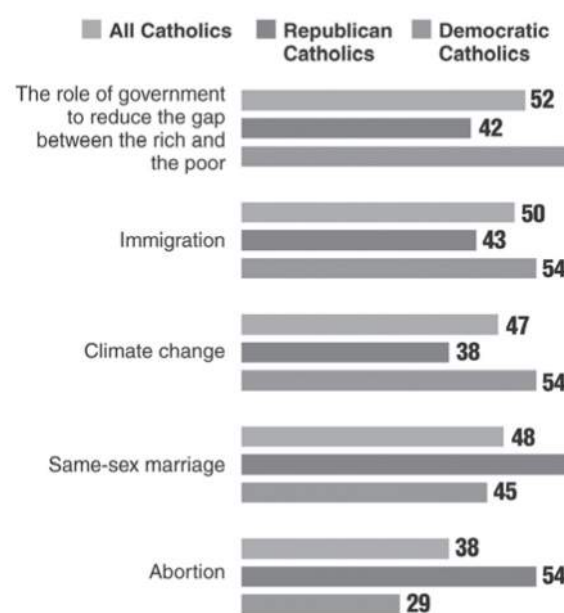
But he urged American Catholic leaders to create a church with the warmth of a "family fire," avoiding "harsh and divisive" language and a "narrow" vision of Catholicism that he called a "perversion of faith."

The statements amounted to a dramatic reframing of issues within the church and a hope for less polarization overall in the United States.

"Recalibration and reorientation are good words to describe it," said John Green,

Do you agree with Pope Francis?

Among Catholics, the percent who agree with Pope Francis on ...?



a specialist in religion at the Bliss Institute of Applied Politics at the University of Akron in Ohio. "The pope is very adept politically. Even people who ended up disagreeing with him on certain points find him a very attractive and persuasive man. I thought he was quite inspiring."

So did many others. Tens of thousands of cheering, flag-waving people lined the streets in Washington, New York and Philadelphia to greet Francis, some waiting for hours to catch a glimpse of the wildly popular pope.

On a highly scripted, six-day visit that ended Sunday, and despite unprecedented security, Francis managed to

inject spontaneity—kissing babies, adding a last-minute event to honor Catholic-Jewish relations and going off text in Philadelphia for a heartfelt meditation on family life.

"The atmosphere was electric," said Auxiliary Bishop John O'Hara of New York, after Francis celebrated Mass for 18,000 people at Madison Square Garden.

Amid all the official ceremonies and the crowds, he made the deeply personal gestures of compassion that have become emblematic of his papacy. He bowed in prayer over a disabled child as the sobbing father looked on in New York. He gave a bear hug to an inmate during a visit to a Philadelphia jail.

ACROSS THE NATION

NTSB: Duck boat in Seattle crash didn't have recommended fix

SEATTLE (AP)—A Seattle duck boat that swerved wildly into an oncoming charter bus last week, killing five people and injuring dozens, did not have an axle repair that was recommended for at least some of the amphibious vehicles in 2013, the National Transportation Safety Board said Sunday. Ride the Ducks International, which refurbished the boat in 2005, issued a warning to its customers two years ago about potential axle failure and recommended a specific repair or increased monitoring, NTSB member Earl Weener said. "This particular duck had not had the fix," he told a news conference.

Records show man killed by police was previously suicidal

WILMINGTON, Del. (AP)—Court records show a Delaware man who reportedly shot himself and refused commands to drop his weapon before being killed by police while in his wheelchair had previously expressed suicidal thoughts and had a history of being combative with police. Some people who saw Jeremy McDole, 28, in the days before he was killed Wednesday said he did not appear to be sad or to be acting strangely. "When I saw him,

he was happy," said Bishop Anthony Slaughter, a community evangelist who talked to McDole last Monday. Eugene Smith, an uncle who said he spoke with McDole about 15 minutes before the shooting, also said he did not sense anything unusual. Court records reviewed by The Associated Press show McDole, who had at least 16 arrests, expressed suicidal behavior in 2010 and was accused of being combative with law enforcement.

Stargazers ready for rare event in supermoon eclipse

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Stargazers are getting a double celestial treat when a total lunar eclipse combines with a so-called supermoon. Those in the United States, Europe, Africa and western Asia can view the rare coupling, weather permitting, Sunday night or early Monday. It's the first time the events have made a twin appearance since 1982, and they won't again until 2033. When a full moon makes its closest approach to Earth, it appears bigger and brighter than usual and is known as a supermoon. That will coincide with a full lunar eclipse where the moon, Earth and sun will be lined up, with Earth's shadow totally obscuring the moon. The event will occur on the U.S. East Coast at 10:11 p.m. EDT (0211 GMT) and last about an hour.

Asia

Police: There's enough evidence to prosecute 2 for Bangkok bombing

BANGKOK (AP)—Thai police said Saturday that two men who were arrested in connection with August's deadly Bangkok bombing were the ones who carried out the attack and that authorities have gathered enough evidence to prosecute them.

Authorities are confident that the two men in custody, identified as Adem Karadag and Miraili Yusufu, are responsible for the bombing at the Erawan Shrine on Aug. 17 that killed 20 people and injured more than 120, said National Police Chief Somyot Poomphanmuang. Police are seeking at least 15 other people they believe are tied to the case.

Police have said the motive for the attack was revenge by a people smuggling network

against Thai authorities for breaking up their operation.

"Today, police are confident Adem and Yusufu are the real attackers," Somyot told reporters. "Adem is the yellow-shirted man who planted the bomb. Yusufu is the one who exploded the bomb."

Somyot said the case against them was supported by closed-circuit television footage, witnesses, DNA matching and physical evidence. He said the two men also had offered confessions.

Police on Saturday had the two carry out a reenactment of the bombing at the crime scene, as well as their getaway. Such reenactments are a routine police procedure in Thailand.

Police spokesman Prawut

Thavornsiri announced late Friday that arrest warrants had been issued for a total of 17 people believed to be linked to the case.

With the new police findings that the two arrested men were believed to have actually carried out the bombing, the charges against them—previously involving the possession of military materials and explosive substances—were upgraded to murder, attempted murder and conspiracy to use explosives to kill, Prawut said.

Somyot said the strength of the evidence had forced the two suspects to confess. He described the police investigation as complete now that the two alleged bombers had been identified.

Nepal restricts vehicle movement as Indian fuel supplies hit

KATHMANDU, Nepal (AP)—Nepal started imposing restrictions on the movement of vehicles on Sunday as a blockade of cargo trucks trying to enter the country from neighboring India continued to severely limit supplies of fuel and other essential commodities.

Officials said that cars will be permitted to run on alternate days based on the last digit of their license plate. Trucks carrying supplies from India stopped entering Nepal this past week amid angry protests following the adoption of a new constitution.

Nepal, a small Himalayan nation, depends heavily on supplies from India, its giant neighbor.

Siva Tripathi, an official at Nepal's Ministry of Supplies, said that Indian security personnel and customs officials had barred supply trucks from entering Nepal, citing orders from Delhi.

"Transportation has come to a complete halt since Thursday. So we are facing the shortage of some essential items, including petroleum products," Tripathi said.

India's foreign ministry has denied that there have been restrictions imposed on Indian suppliers and blamed protests inside Nepal for the disrupted movement of oil tankers and trucks loaded with medicine, sugar, salt, food and cooking gas cylinders.

On Friday, hundreds of protesters blocked a bridge linking Birgunj, a Nepalese border town, with India. The area is about 300 kilometers (200 miles) east of Kathmandu, Nepal's capital.

While many in Nepal have welcomed the new constitution that came into force last week, some ethnic groups object to the boundaries of the seven federal states that were set up. Other protesters want Nepal to be a Hindu state and not secular as the constitution calls for.

The protests have been waning, but violence related to them has killed at least 45 people in recent weeks.

The man, identified as Azapa Sriwua, grabbed a 47-centimeter (19-inch) kitchen knife and went after the children first, said Lt. Col. Sombat Kalasuk of the Chiang Mai police station. Police found four bodies of children, all believed to be under 8 years of age, in pools of blood on the floor of the house, including one boy by the front door, indicating he died while trying to escape, said Sombat. A 5-month-old baby who was also stabbed died later at a hospital, where a 7-month old pregnant woman who was watching the children was being treated for knife wounds to her face and body.

Typhoon Dujuan intensifies as it heads toward Taiwan

TAIPEI, Taiwan (AP)—Typhoon Dujuan picked up strength Sunday as it headed toward Taiwan, prompting warnings of strong winds and torrential rain. As of 5:30 p.m. local time, Dujuan was centered 311 miles (500 kilometers) east-southeast of Hualien, moving west-northwest at 9 mph (14 kph), according to Taiwan's Central Weather Bureau. It was packing maximum sustained winds of 114 mph (184 kph). The typhoon is expected to make landfall in northern Taiwan on Monday evening after affecting Japan's southern Ryukyu islands. The weather bureau issued a land warning, advising people in northern and eastern Taiwan to be prepared for heavy rain. Dujuan was then forecast to move across the Taiwan Strait and strike China's southeastern Fujian Province on Tuesday morning.

ASIAN BRIEFS

Maldives president escapes unhurt from speedboat blast

MALE, Maldives (AP)—Maldives President Yameen Abdul Gayoom escaped unhurt Monday from a blast on his speedboat as he returned home after performing hajj in Saudi Arabia. Minister Mohamed Shareef said the blast occurred Monday morning as the boat reached the main jetty in the capital of Male. Gayoom's wife Fathimath Ibrahim and several officials suffered minor injuries. Shareef said the cause of the blast, thought to have happened in the engine room, was not known. Boating accidents and fires are common in the Indian Ocean archipelago state. The country's international airport is on a separate island and a short boat trip is needed to reach the capital island. Ahmed Hamdhoon, a local journalist who was on the jetty to cover Gayoom's arrival, said he heard a huge blast as soon as the boat docked.

Knife-wielding man kills 5 children in Thailand

BANGKOK (AP)—A man in northern Thailand stormed into a neighbor's home, hacked five children to death and inflicted multiple stab wounds on a pregnant woman who was watching them, police said Monday. Police said the 24-year-old man, who had a history of mental illness and received regular treatment for depression, became agitated by the noise coming from his neighbor's home in a village outside the city of Chiang Mai.

World

War on IS a focus of UN Assembly

NEW YORK (AP)—When world leaders convene for the U.N. General Assembly this week, it will be a year since the U.S. president declared the formation of an international coalition to "degrade and ultimately destroy" the Islamic State group.

Despite billions of dollars spent and thousands of airstrikes, the campaign appears to have made little impact.

The extremist group may control slightly less territory than a year ago, but it continues to launch attacks and maintains key strongholds in Syria and Iraq. The militants' reach has expanded to other countries, including Libya, Egypt's Sinai Peninsula and Afghanistan.

U.S.-led airstrikes helped Syrian Kurds hold the strategic border town of Kobani in January, and seize another key border town, Tal Abyad, this summer. But a much-touted offensive to oust IS militants from the Iraqi city of Ramadi remains stalled; there have been grave losses



In this photo released on Sunday, June 28, 2015, by a website of Islamic State militants, an Islamic State militant waves his group's flag as he and another celebrate in Fallujah, Iraq, west of Baghdad.

among the few Syrian rebels trained by the U.S. to fight IS; an IS-free zone announced by Turkey and the U.S. has failed to materialize.

At the same time, growing concern about the Syrian refugee crisis and reports that IS may be planning attacks against Europe may spur some countries to get more involved in the anti-IS coalition. On Sunday, President Francois Hol-

lande announced that French jet fighters had carried out their first airstrikes against IS targets in Syria. France had previously limited its air campaign to IS targets in Iraq.

But short of sending in ground forces—an option Western countries are not willing to entertain—the stalemate in the war against the Islamic State group is likely to persist.

Iraq to share intelligence on IS with Syria, Russia and Iran

BAGHDAD (AP)—Iraq's military said Sunday it will begin sharing "security and intelligence" information with Syria, Russia and Iran to help combat the Islamic State group, a move that could further complicate U.S. efforts to battle the extremists without working with Damascus and its allies.

A statement issued by the Joint Operations Command said the countries will "help and cooperate in collecting information about the terrorist Daesh group," using the Arabic acronym for the IS group.

Iraq has long had close ties with neighboring Iran and has coordinated with Tehran in fighting IS—which controls about a third of Iraq and Syria

in a self-declared caliphate. Iran has sent military advisers to Iraq and worked closely with Shiite militias battling the IS group.

A U.S.-led coalition has meanwhile been conducting airstrikes against IS in Iraq and Syria as well as training and advising Iraqi forces, but U.S. officials insist they are not coordinating their efforts with Iran.

The U.S. also refuses to cooperate with Syrian President Bashar Assad, who Washington has insisted should step down. Russia and Iran have provided crucial support to Assad since Syria's uprising began in 2011.

The Baghdad-based spokesman for the U.S.-led campaign against the IS group, Col. Steve

Warren, said the U.S. remains committed to working with Iraq to defeat the extremists.

"We recognize that Iraq has an interest in sharing information on ISIL with other governments in the region who are also fighting ISIL," Warren said, using another acronym for the militant group. "We do not support the presence of Syrian government officials who are part of a regime that has brutalized its own citizens."

U.S. Secretary of State John Kerry, who met with Russian Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov on the sidelines of the U.N. General Assembly on Sunday, said in response to the Iraqi statement that "all of the efforts need to be coordinated. This is not yet coordinated."

Obama makes forceful defense of new development goals

UNITED NATIONS (AP)—President Barack Obama on Sunday committed the U.S. to a new blueprint to eliminate poverty and hunger around the world, telling a global summit that a sweeping new development agenda is "not charity but instead is one of the smartest investments we can make in our own future."

It was the first of two addresses Obama is making at the United Nations. His second on Monday morning, to the annual U.N. General Assembly of world leaders, will be a broader examination of world issues, especially the ever-more complicated conflict in Syria and the related refugee crisis.

As Secretary of State John Kerry put it after a meeting on the sidelines Sunday, "It would be a complete understatement to say that we meet at a challenging time."

Obama offered a powerful defense of a 15-year development agenda that will require trillions of dollars of effort from countries, companies and civil society.

He told delegates that 800 million men, women and children scrape by on less than \$1.25 a day and that billions of people are at risk of dying from preventable diseases. He called it a "moral outrage" that many children are just one mosquito bite away from death.

And, with a possible nod toward his address on Monday, he noted that "military interventions might have been avoided over the years" if countries had spent more time, money and effort on caring for their own people. That line drew applause.

"Development is threatened by war," Obama said, and war often arises from bad governance. Addressing the world's greatest refugee crisis since World War II as millions flee conflict in Syria and elsewhere, he said countries "that can, must do more to accommodate refugees" but added those efforts must be matched by diplomacy.

Life & Style

'Hotel Transylvania 2' bites off September record

LOS ANGELES (AP)—September has a new box office star in "Hotel Transylvania 2." The PG-rated animated pic earned a robust \$47.5 million in its debut weekend, making it the top September opener of all time, according to Rentrak estimates Sunday.

The previous record holder was "Hotel Transylvania" which opened to \$42.5 million in 2012.

"It really is something the whole family can agree to see. There are laughs for adults, kids, and teenagers as well," said Rory Bruer, president of worldwide distribution for Sony.

According to the studio, an estimated 59 percent of audiences were female and 60 percent were under the age of 25.

Paul Dergarabedian, a Senior Media Analyst for box office tracker Rentrak, noted that the film capitalized on early excitement for Halloween. It's also serving an audience eager for more family friendly animated content.

"This year hasn't been oversaturated with family animated films, it seems like virtually all have done well," he said.

The film, which cost around \$80 million to make, features the voices of Adam Sandler, Mel Brooks, Selena Gomez and Kevin James and is the only animated feature on the market until "Peanuts" opens in November.

"The Intern," a PG-13 rated workplace comedy starring Anne Hathaway and Robert De Niro, took second with a solid \$18.2 million.

Audiences for the Nancy Meyers written and directed film were 62 percent women

and 88 percent over the age of 25. Significantly, 55 percent were over 50-years-old—an audience that doesn't typically rush out to see films on opening weekend.

"Nancy Meyers is her own brand and I think that automatically accesses an audience who looks at it and thinks 'this is a movie I want to see,'" said Jeff Goldstein, an executive vice president at Warner Bros., of the veteran filmmaker known for films like "It's Complicated."

"Here we have a real hit," he said.

"Maze Runner: The Scorch Trials" took third place in its second weekend in theaters with \$14 million—a 54 percent drop from its opening. The film has brought in \$51.7 million to date.

"Everest," meanwhile, landed in fourth place with only \$13.1 million after expanding nationwide. The fact-based adventure film opened only on IMAX and premium large format 3D screens last weekend.

"It's very difficult to know where a film is going to land when there's no good comp for it. Based on the releasing pattern we had for the movie, we're kind of blazing a new trail. You can call it an experiment if you will," said Nick Carpou, who heads Universal's domestic distribution. "When you add the two weekends together and the mid-weeks in between, sitting here at \$23 million feels really good."

Dergarabedian said that perhaps the competition over the same audience is the reason for "Everest's" soft weekend.

"It's really crowded out there," Dergarabedian said.

Both "Black Mass," in fifth place with \$11.5 million, and "Everest" have been pulling in predominantly male audiences.

The well-reviewed border drama "Sicario" is also dividing audience attentions. It cracked the top 10 with \$1.8 million from only 59 theaters.

Hope isn't lost for "Everest," though. Internationally, it has earned \$73.7 million to date. Also, with a solid A CinemaScore, word of mouth should be strong in the coming weeks, despite the direct competition of next week's "The Walk," another vertiginous, event film that will take over IMAX screens.

Estimated ticket sales for Friday through Sunday at U.S. and Canadian theaters, according to Rentrak. Where available, the latest international numbers for Friday through Sunday are also included. Final domestic figures will be released Monday.

1. "Hotel Transylvania 2," \$47.5 million (\$29.2 million international).
2. "The Intern," \$18.2 million (\$11.8 million international).
3. "Maze Runner: The Scorch Trials," \$14 million (\$28.4 million international).
4. "Everest," \$13.1 million (\$33.8 million international).
5. "Black Mass," \$11.5 million.
6. "The Visit," \$6.7 million (\$5 million international).
7. "The Perfect Guy," \$4.8 million.
8. "War Room," \$4.3 million (\$2.1 million international).
9. "The Green Inferno," \$3.5 million (\$400K international).
10. "Sicario," \$1.8 million (\$3.5 million international).

Heidi Klum cajoles boyfriend to buy her a giant plastic snail

MILAN (AP)—Heidi Klum gently but persistently cajoled her boyfriend Vito Schnabel to buy her a giant plastic snail at the 7th annual Milan amfAR auction, nudging up the price of the sculpture and helping raise a Milan record of \$1.6 million for the charity.

"Vito, I thought you were going to buy me the snail!" the model, who chaired the event, pleaded from stage Saturday night, as bidding heated up. A few bids later, the 29-year-old art dealer won the 3-meter (11-foot) snail by the Europe-based Cracking Art Group for 20,000 euro (\$22,000). Klum, a mother of four, said she planned to put it in her garden.

The amfAR charity raises money for AIDS research, with the goal of finding a cure for AIDS by 2020. The organization's chairman Kenneth Cole told the crowd that the money raised at the auction would be used to set up an amfAR institute for the cure.

During a break in the auction, actress and model Dakota Johnson introduced Blondie singer Debbie Harry, calling her "my personal perception of cool."

Harry, looking fabulous in a snug black sequin dress and sunglasses with her trademark splash of blonde hair, asked if any of the tailors in the room could help her guitarist, who had ripped his pants. He lifted his leg gamely to show the tear.

As Harry, now 70, belted out "Heart of Glass" and "Call Me," some in the fashion crowd couldn't resist the beat and danced by their dinner tables.

"I have always supported amfAR from the very beginning. I think it is very worthwhile,



Model Heidi Klum arrives for the amfAR charity dinner during the fashion week in Milan, Italy, Saturday, Sept. 26, 2015

they've had some tremendous success and the support and the feeling for it is wonderful," Harry told The Associated Press as she arrived.

Also during the auction, Goga Ashkenazi, who is reviving the historic Vionnet brand, paid 22,000 euros for a 1970 photograph of Debbie Harry, hair teased out and eyes upward

against a red background, by rock photographer Mick Rock. The print was signed by both Rock and Harry. And Lapo Elkann, whose family controls Ferrari, apparently can't get enough of fast cars: He paid 75,000 euros to race a Ferrari and other high-performance cars in Las Vegas with actress Michelle Rodriguez.

People who ask about accent are being friendly, not rude

DEAR ABBY: I have lived in the United States for 40 years. My first 32 years were spent in Puerto Rico, so I speak with an accent. My problem is almost everyone I meet asks me where I'm from. I usually try to disguise my discomfort by jokingly asking them to guess.

The truth is, I feel singled out as being different and not belonging. My friends and family tell me I'm being too sensitive, that people are just curious. I say it's rude to ask such a personal question of a total stranger. Would it be impolite for me to point out that they're asking for very personal information? Am I being too sensitive?

ACCENTED IN GEORGIA

DEAR ACCENTED: I think so. People are often curious when someone has an accent that is different from theirs. I have a strong Midwestern accent, and people ask me where I'm from. They aren't asking because they are nosy; they're trying to be friendly. Many people in this country come from other places, and the more people who come here, the more often that question will be raised.

DEAR ABBY: My four wonderful kids want to give their father and me a 50th wedding anniversary celebration next year. The problem is, everyone knows I'm an introvert who does not like

going to parties. The thought of being the main focus of a big gathering fills me with dread.

My husband, who is outgoing, says I should let them do it for us if it will make them happy. He would probably enjoy it, but for me it will just be something to suffer through. I'd rather do something with just the two of us—like see a Broadway show. What do you think? Do I have to do this, even though I don't want to?

ROSE OF TEXAS

DEAR ROSE: I don't think you should have to suffer, but a compromise might be the solution to your problem. Instead of a large gathering, why not have a family celebration with your children, their spouses and your grandchildren? And then, because you would like to see a Broadway show—go to New York for a "second honeymoon."

DEAR ABBY: I recently began dating a man who is kind, intelligent and fun. The only drawback I can see is that he keeps his fingernails long. I feel superficial confessing that something so seemingly petty is off-putting, but it is.

Is it OK to make a request of a man regarding his physical appearance? If so, how do I broach the conversation? And if not, what can I do so it won't bother me?

PUT OFF IN DELAWARE

DEAR ABBY

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.



DEAR PUT OFF: Could this man be a guitarist and need the nails for strumming? If not, I don't think it would be rude to casually ask him why he keeps his fingernails long. You might also suggest that the next time you go for a manicure he come along, and then suggest to him that men often get them and offer to treat him to one. If he has never experienced this, it might be a life-changing revelation. (That's what I'd do.)

For an excellent guide to becoming a better conversationalist and a more sociable person, order "How to Be Popular." Send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for \$7 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby, Popularity Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Shipping and handling are included in the price.)

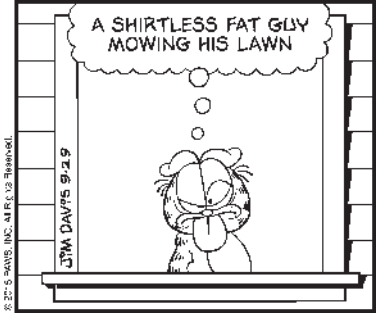
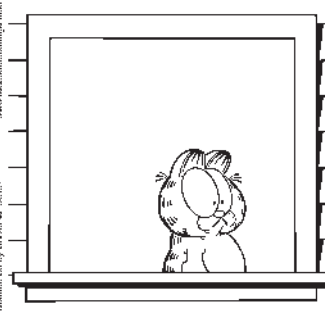
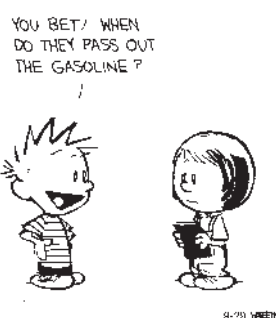
Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson

Garfield®

By Jim Davis

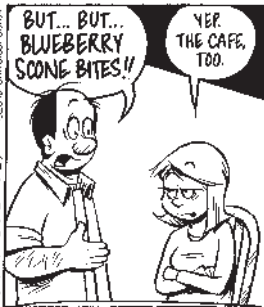


Adam@home

By Bryan Basset

The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy



CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS

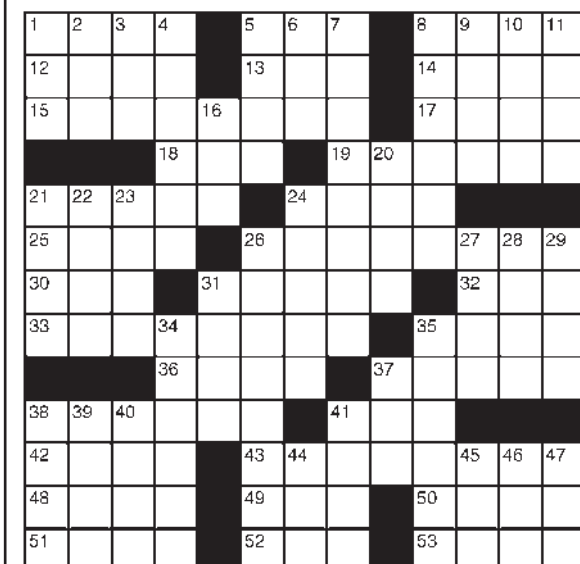
1 Easter entree
5 Help
8 Related (to)
12 Hodge-podge
13 Lanka precursor
14 Obey reveille
15 Inexperienced boxers
17 Unfreeze
18 Possesses
19 Barrel parts
21 Haunt
24 Burden
25 Poi base
26 Easy to perceive
30 Eco-friendly org.
31 Breathing
32 Squabble
33 Ease (symptoms)
35 Rescue
36 Pseudo-cultured
37 Tribe leader

DOWN

1 Prune
2 Carte lead-in
3 Wire measure
4 Sobbing sound
5 Requests
6 Savings plan
7 Liquefy
8 Fleet
9 Chicken
10 Wight, e.g.
11 Volleyball barriers
16 Erstwhile acorn
20 Recording
21 Kind of parent
22 Hemingway
23 Exam format
24 Non-clergy
26 Duck-billed animal
27 Actor Pitt
28 Cupid's field
29 Ornamental jug
31 Ostentatious display
34 Young Scot
35 Pie slice for a dieter
37 Historic time
38 Test the waters
39 Finished
40 Masseuse's stock
41 Dog bane
44 Cleo's slayer
45 Ostrich's cousin
46 Umbrella part
47 Pigen

Solution time: 22 mins.

Yesterday's answer 9-29



STUMPED? For answers to today's crossword, call 1-900-226-5955! 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Erika Eleniak, 46; Roger Bart, 53; Bryant Gumbel, 67; Jerry Lee Lewis, 80.

Happy Birthday: It's time to tie up loose ends. Making a difference in your community or to the people you love will bring you satisfaction and help provide you with the experience to make positive changes to the world around you. Expect emotional matters to surface, forcing you to confront the personal issues you've thought about for so long. It's onward and upward. Your numbers are 8, 12, 21, 25, 33, 39, 47.

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Emotional decisions will be clouded by false information. Make sure your motives and plans are realistic. Question what someone tells you. Make personal changes that will separate you from the competition. Someone special will make a positive move on your behalf. ★★

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Expand your interests and get involved in events or activities that are geared toward learning and trying new things. A personal problem with a lover, child or friend will leave you emotionally uncertain regarding your future. Don't make physical alterations without proper research. ★★

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Get out and engage in activities that will put you in contact with new and exciting people, but don't overspend. A personal improvement will bring you closer to someone you love. Don't let the changes others make influence you. ★★

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Focus on making personal improvements, not trying to change others. Opposition will

mount if you criticize others or try to control someone you live with. Spend more time with the people you love most. ★★

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): You will discover information that will change your course of action and the way you feel about others and your future prospects. Indulge in something that will update your look or improve your state of mind. Travel plans can be made. ★★

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Make time for some lively entertainment, or get involved in a physical activity that will motivate you to stay in shape. As long as you don't overdo it, you will maintain a healthy and happy mental, emotional and physical outlook. ★★

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): You will be prone to changing your mind and dealing with people who don't agree with the way you would like to do things. Consider the ways you can compromise and still get what you want or need to get ahead. ★★

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Broaden your outlook and consider how you can alter the way you live in order to make personal or professional gains. Choose to do things differently, and you will stand out in competitive situations and be more satisfied. ★★

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): You can talk your way into a deal, a new position or someone's heart. Your outgoing, spontaneous nature will bring plenty of action your way. A chance to make a positive change to your appearance will boost your ego. Love is in the stars. ★★

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Stick to what you know and do best. If you are too engaged in doing all the talking and don't listen to others, you will end up in an emotional situation that will try your patience. Make an unusual investment and it will pay off. ★★

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Talk about change and then put your plans into motion. A chance to try out something that has been hyped up to sound amazing will end up disappointing you. Look for alternatives and you will come up with something better. ★★

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Don't let your personal matters disrupt your productivity or professional dealings. Focus on equality and keeping everything you get involved in fair and just. It's always better to give and take if you want to keep the peace and be successful. ★★

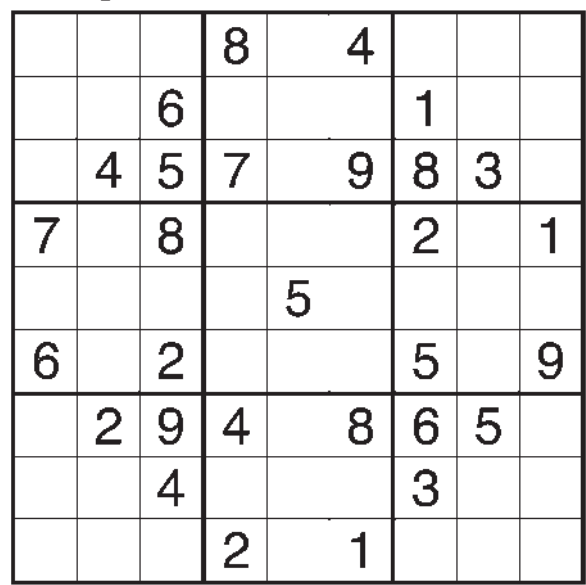
Birthday Baby: You are unique, proactive and engaging. You are curious and adaptable.

Eugenia's website—eugenialast.com, Eugenia's android app @ <http://bit.ly/exhoro> and join Eugenia on twitter/facebook/linkedin.

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku

By Dave Green

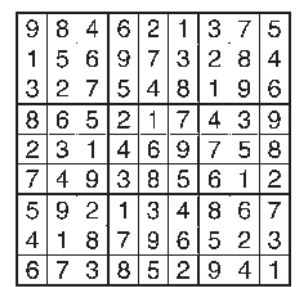


Difficulty Level ★★

9/29

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Friday's SUDOKU Answer



WONDERWORD®

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally and even backward. Find them, circle each letter of the word and strike it off the list. The leftover letters spell the WONDERWORD.

MOZAIC DESIGNS

Solution: 8 letters



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Abstract, Artist, Backsplash, Bathroom, Birdbath, Bistro, Blues, Bold, Candle, Ceiling, Church, Colors, Cool, Crafts, Cross, Cups, Doors, Fireplace, Flat, Flooring, Flowers, Frame, Glued, Gold, Green, Grout, Holder, Lantern, Make, Marble, Mirror, Mount, Murals, Museum, Pink, Portrait, Reds, Rugs, Shells, Square, Table, Tiles, Vases, Walls, Zodiac

Yesterday's Answer: Cowboy Hats

To purchase THE COLLECTED WONDERWORD, Volume 35, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42 or 43, order online at www.WonderWordBooks.com. (Contains 43 puzzles.)

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Spieth wins Tour Championship to cap off big season



ATLANTA (AP)—Jordan Spieth treated the Tour Championship as if it were

a major. He played like it was, too.

Looking for a fitting finish to a sensational season, Spieth poured in putts from all over East Lake and never gave Henrik Stenson or anyone else much of a chance Sunday. His final stroke was an 8-foot par putt that was right in the heart for a 1-under 69, and he leaned back with a smile of pure satisfaction.

The 22-year-old Texan became golf's first \$22 million man—a PGA Tour record with just over \$12 million in prize money, and the \$10 million bonus for the FedEx Cup.

"This is incredible," Spieth said. "This is an event where we approach it like a major championship because we know this is possible at the end of it."

Even when he missed back-to-back cuts to start the FedEx Cup playoffs, Spieth spent the month trying to peak for the most important event in the lucrative series. He was the first to show up at East Lake on Monday to start grinding on his game. And with a one-shot lead going into the final round Sunday, he was on the putting green three hours before his tee time for what caddie Michael Greller called the "early grind."

"We only do this at the majors," Greller said.

It all paid off so handsomely, especially that putter.

Spieth made three birdies in a four-hole stretch around the turn, and they were demoralizing for Stenson. Spieth made a 20-foot birdie on No. 8 for a two-shot swing that he never gave back. He made an 18-foot birdie on the par-5 ninth with Stenson already at tap-in range for birdie. And with Stenson just over 3 feet away for birdie on No. 11, Spieth curled in a



Jordan Spieth is presented the FedEx Cup after winning the Tour Championship golf tournament at East Lake Golf Club on Sunday, Sept. 27, 2015, in Atlanta.

45-foot birdie putt.

"Eleven was a dagger," Spieth said.

At that point, Stenson could only smile and bump fists with Spieth.

"You can't expect him to make it," Stenson said after a 72. "You're feeling like you got a good chance to make up some ground. But he just poured that one in the middle. It's fun to watch and just say, 'Well done.' The best player this week won the tournament, won the FedEx Cup."

Spieth closed with seven pars for a

four-shot victory over Stenson, Danny Lee (65) and Justin Rose (66). His fifth victory of the year, which includes the Masters and the U.S. Open, was worth \$1,485,000 million and gave Spieth \$12,030,465 for the year.

The previous record was \$10.9 million by Vijay Singh in 2004.

And if that wasn't enough, Spieth went back to No. 1 in the world.

The first person to greet him was his little sister, Ellie, who keeps Spieth and the entire family so ground-

ed in light of so much success. His parents, girlfriend, grandfather and a tight group of high school friends from Dallas were there to watch another amazing performance in a year filled with him.

Spieth became the youngest player since Horton Smith in 1929 to win five times in a season, and the youngest to claim the FedEx Cup title.

"It's been a phenomenal year for him," Stenson said. "I watched it firsthand at the first two rounds at Augusta,

and he played phenomenal and putted phenomenal. And it was the same putting display, really, today - just an exhibition on the greens, to be honest.

"His putting and mental focus is the best in the world. It's hard to argue that."

And there's no longer an argument for PGA Tour player of the year.

Jason Day had five victories, including his first major at the PGA Championship, and there was talk a sixth win and the FedEx Cup might put the Australian in the discussion. Not anymore. Spieth made a spirited bid for the Grand Slam and joined Jack Nicklaus and Tiger Woods as the only players to finish no worse than fourth in all the professional majors. Along with the money title, he won the Vardon Trophy for the lowest adjusted scoring average.

The only question he couldn't answer was what he will do for an encore. "This is one I cannot wait to celebrate," he said.

Stenson made a \$1 million putt of his own, though it was the least he could do. He was three shots behind when he shanked his shot from the 17th fairway and made double bogey. That dropped him into a four-way tie for fourth and cost him a spot in the FedEx Cup ranking. But he bounced back with a 60-foot birdie putt on the 18th to go back to No. 2 in the FedEx Cup to earn a \$3 million bonus (instead of \$2 million for third).

Stenson had three runner-up finishes in the postseason, and he has five for the year without winning. He still has events left on the European Tour.

But this week—and year—was all about Spieth.

"It's the greatest season I've ever had, obviously," Spieth said. "But it's one where I believe we took our game on course and off course to a level that I didn't think would be possible at different times in my life."

Steelers top Rams 12-6; Roethlisberger injures knee



ST. LOUIS (AP)—Ben Roethlisberger was carted off the field with a knee injury in the second half and Pittsburgh's defense came through to give the Steelers a 12-6 victory over the St. Louis Rams on Sunday.

Le'Veon Bell scored from a yard out in the first half in his first game back after a suspension, but the Steelers' focus will be on the status of their star quarterback. Roethlisberger's leg got caught underneath him on a diving, sliding sack by Mark Barron.

There was no immediate word on the extent of Roethlisberger's injury.

Falcons 39, Cowboys 28

In Arlington, Texas, Matt Ryan and Julio Jones connected for two touchdowns and Devonta Freeman ran for 141 yards and three scores as Atlanta beat Dallas in the Cowboys' first game without Tony Romo and Dez Bryant.

Freeman's third score early in the fourth quarter capped a rally from a trio of 14-point deficits for the Falcons (3-0), who

didn't win their third game until Week 10 last year, and Week 13 in 2013.

Patriots 51, Jaguars 17

In Foxborough, Massachusetts, Tom Brady became the fourth quarterback in NFL history to throw 400 touchdown passes, connecting for a pair of scores.

Brady completed a 1-yard TD pass to Danny Amendola in the second quarter and added a 13-yard touchdown to Keshawn Martin in the third. In all, Brady completed 33 of 42 passes for 358 yards.

Seahawks 26, Bears 0

In Seattle, Tyler Lockett returned the second-half kickoff 105 yards for a touchdown, Russell Wilson connected with Jimmy Graham on a 30-yard TD, and the Seahawks routed the undermanned Bears.

Seattle led just 6-0 at half-time, but Lockett started a huge second half as he went untouched on a perfectly executed return, the longest in franchise history. Later in the quarter, Wilson found Graham across the middle for his second touchdown catch this season.

Cardinals 47, 49ers 7

In Glendale, Arizona, Carson Palmer threw for 311 yards and Arizona returned two of Colin Kaepernick's first four passes for touchdowns.

Larry Fitzgerald caught nine passes for 134 yards and two touchdowns and Chris Johnson rushed for 110 yards and two scores for the Cardinals (3-0), who won at Chicago 48-23 last week.

Broncos 24, Lions 12

In Detroit, Peyton Manning converted a fourth down with a 45-yard touchdown pass to Demaryius Thomas with 5 seconds left in the first half, and threw an 11-yard TD pass to Owen Daniels with 2:28 remaining to lead Denver to victory.

The last time the Broncos (3-0) won their first three games was in 2013, when they reached the Super Bowl. The Lions (0-3) are off to their worst start since 2010, when they finished 6-10.

Bills 41, Dolphins 14

In Miami Gardens, Florida, Tyrod Taylor threw for 277 yards and three scores in his first NFL road start. The Bills totaled 429

yards, intercepted Ryan Tannehill three times in the first half, and led 27-0 before Miami scored late in the third quarter.

Buffalo (2-1) bounced back from a dismal loss at home to New England. The Dolphins (1-2), who began the season with high hopes of ending a seven-year playoff drought, fell into last place in the AFC East with their second consecutive loss.

Texans 19, Buccaneers 9

In Houston, Ryan Mallett threw for three for 228 yards and a touchdown and Alfred Blue had 139 yards rushing for Houston's first win of the season.

Mallett gave Houston (1-2) the lead on a 5-yard touchdown pass to DeAndre Hopkins on the opening drive. The Buccaneers (1-2) went up 9-7 on a TD catch by Charles Sims in the second quarter.

Eagles 24, Jets 17

In East Rutherford, New Jersey, Darren Sproles returned a punt 89 yards for a score and added a 1-yard touchdown run for Philadelphia's first win.

Sam Bradford threw a TD pass to Ryan Mathews, who

also rushed for 108 yards while starting in place of the injured DeMarco Murray. The Eagles (1-2) improved to 10-0 all-time against the Jets (2-1), who were coming off a victory at Indianapolis last Monday night.

Raiders 27, Browns 20

In Cleveland, Derek Carr threw two touchdown passes, Latavius Murray rushed for 139 yards and Oakland ended an 11-game road losing streak.

Carr connected with Andre Holmes and Seth Roberts in the first half and the Raiders (2-1) held off a late Cleveland comeback to win their first road game since Nov. 17, 2013.

Bengals 28, Ravens 24

In Baltimore, Andy Dalton threw a 7-yard touchdown pass to A.J. Green with 2:10 left, and Cincinnati remained unbeaten. Baltimore dropped to 0-3 for the first time in team history.

The Bengals (3-0) blew a 14-0 lead and twice trailed in the fourth quarter before Dalton brought them back by repeatedly picking apart the porous Baltimore pass defense.

Colts 35, Titans 33

In Nashville, Tennessee, An-

drew Luck threw two touchdown passes 56 seconds apart in the fourth quarter as he rallied Indianapolis.

Luck improved to 7-0 against Tennessee with another stunning comeback. The Colts (1-2) trailed 27-14 before Luck got going. He drove the Colts 98 yards before hitting Phillip Dorsett on a 35-yard TD with 6:49 left.

Panthers 27, Saints 22

In Charlotte, North Carolina, Cam Newton threw for 315 yards and a pair of touchdowns to tight end Greg Olsen and also ran for a score.

Luke McCown, starting in place of the injured Drew Brees, completed 31 of 38 passes for 310 yards but it wasn't enough to save the Saints (0-3). It was the first game Brees has missed because of injury since joining the Saints in 2006.

Vikings 31, Chargers 14

In Minneapolis, Adrian Peterson plowed through San Diego's defense for 126 yards and two touchdowns on 20 rushes in three quarters.

Chad Greenway scored on a 91-yard interception return for the Vikings (2-1). The Chargers are 1-2.

Geri is MGA's August Ace

By JON PEREZ
jon_perez@saipantribune.com
REPORTER



Geri Dela Cruz recorded the lowest net score to clinch the Marianas Golf Association's August Ace of the Month held last week at the Coral Ocean Point

Golf Resort.

Dela Cruz started at the back nine and fired a 45 before closing out with a 46 for a 91 gross score. She had a 22 handicap that gave her 69 net.

She beat James Benavente by one stroke as the MGA treasurer shot rounds of 39 and 47 for an 86 gross and a 70 net with his 16

handicap.

The MGA secretary, who overcame a cloudy and at times rainy afternoon, now moved closer of earning a spot in the group's Ace of Aces tournament at the end of the year.

Ace of the Month winners need to meet a required number of games in the monthly teeoff



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
Marianas Golf Association secretary Geri Dela Cruz tries to make a putt during last week's MGA August Ace of the Month at the Coral Ocean Point Golf Resort.

MAMBA

From Page 20

A pair of free throws in the ensuing play gave Mamba a safe lead, 65-55, while Oh My J got only its second field goal in the homestretch off Ferdie Tobias' triple on the other end. Another miss from Oh My J returned possession to Mamba, which collected 2 more points from Christian Devero in the

last 1.7 seconds of the game to peg the final score. Mateo committed a foul on Devero, who pulled up from the 3-point area, hoping to put the finishing touches on their win, but had to settle for 2 points after missing his second free throw attempt.

Christian Devero led all scorers with his 25 points, while Talania and Stephen Tolosa chipped in 13 and 10, respectively. Guiab paced Oh My J

with his 14 points, while Mateo contributed 10.

Mamba 67 – C. Devero 25, Talania 13, Tolosa 10, Abadilla 5, Macoto 4, J. Devero 4, Mina 4, Domingo 2.

Oh My J 58 – Guiab 14, Mateo 10, Asuhan 9, Tobias 8, Galulu 6, Enriquez 5, Sanciango 4, Manangan 2.

Scoring by halves: 33-28, 67-58.

victory versus Salem International University last Sept. 26.

Of their eight games, Del Rosario said that one that stood out for him was their first match.

"The first game took off the pressure. It was the game that you can really see where do you stand against other players and what are the things you need to work on more, physically, and mentally," the Alderson rookie said.

Just like any other student-athlete, Del Rosario said balancing sports and school is a challenge to his young collegiate career.

"You have to be on point in both. Time management is really crucial because if you miss

one or the other then it's going to be harder for you. It is also important for student-athlete to think why they started when they feel like quitting," the many-time CNMI national youth player.

Meanwhile, Del Rosario and the Battlers are heading to Elkins, West Virginia, to face Davis & Elkins College on Sept. 30 (Oct. 1 on Saipan). The Battlers are playing in the Great Mid-western Athletic Conference and are the only team in that division to have received votes from the NSCAA (National Soccer Coaches Association of America) NCAA Division II National Poll last week.

to qualify for the yearend tournament.

She now joins the list of Ace of the Month winners Harry Nakamura (January), Calvin Yamagishi (February), Jess Seaman (March), Martin Naputi (April), Jenny Hegland, (May), Chandler DeLoatch, (June), Jay Muna (July).

MGA president J.J. Atalig clinched three closest to the pin awards at holes No. 3, 12, and 14 while Ron Benavente topped No. 7.

The MGA August Ace was a month behind and it was originally scheduled in early August but Typhoon Soudelor pounded Saipan where the four golf

courses on the island sustained damage forcing them to close while they repair and clean up the debris.

The MGA September Ace is set on Oct. 3, Saturday, at Laolao Bay Golf & Resort's west course. Showtime is at 9am while tee off is at 10am.

The MGA, which is still accepting new members, is again encouraging their affiliates and Ace of the Month winners to join Saturday's event.

Joey Dela Cruz (vice president), Chandler DeLoatch (tournament director), and Jerry Ayuyu (handicap chairman) join Atalig, Geri Dela Cruz, and James Bena-

vente as officers of MGA.

MGA was established three years ago and now has 30 active members made up of young and senior, rookies and veterans, and men and women CNMI residents who enjoy playing golf.

The group, recently, also made a donation of \$500 to join other local organizations in a fundraising drive for school supplies by public elementary school students.

For more information, call Geri Dela Cruz at 2876574 or email marianasgolf670@gmail.com or visit their group's Facebook page at facebook.com/MarianasGolfAssociation.

Nationals' Harper, Papelbon in dugout fight in loss to Phils



WASHINGTON (AP)—

Nationals outfielder Bryce Harper and closer Jonathan Papelbon got into a dugout fight a day after Washington was eliminated from playoff contention, tangling in the eighth inning Sunday of a 12-5 loss to last-place Philadelphia.

In the ninth, Papelbon (4-3) gave up Andres Blanco's go-ahead homer as the Phillies scored eight times.

Harper, the National League Most Valuable Player front-runner, flied out in the eighth with the score 4-all. As he returned to the dugout, he exchanged words with Papelbon, who was acquired from Philadelphia in July to help with a possible postseason push.

Papelbon then reached for Harper's throat with his left hand and shoved the outfielder back toward the bench with both arms. Teammates pulled the pair apart.

Cubs 4, Pirates 0

In Chicago, Jake Arrieta pitched seven dominant innings and also homered in his MLB-best 21st win, and Chicago stopped Pittsburgh's winning streak at eight games.

Arrieta (21-6) retired his first 18 batters before Gregory Polanco grounded a leadoff single into left field in the seventh. The right-hander homered in the second and struck out nine while improving to 15-1 with a dazzling 0.89 ERA in his last 19 starts.

Astros 4, Rangers 2

In Houston, Dallas Keuchel (19-8) improved to 15-0 at home this season, striking out 10 while giving up one run and two hits in seven innings. Hous-

ton maintained a half-game lead over the Los Angeles Angels for the second American League wild card and closed within 2 1/2 games of AL West-leading Texas.

Angels 3, Mariners 2

In Anaheim, California, Kole Calhoun singled in the tiebreaking run in the eighth after Carson Smith relieved Hisashi Iwakuma (9-5), and Los Angeles won its fifth straight

Twins 7, Tigers 1

In Detroit, Byron Buxton doubled and homered for Minnesota, which won for the fifth time in seven games and remained 1 1/2 games behind Houston.

Royals 3, Indians 0

In Kansas City, Missouri, a day after his father died, Chris Young (11-6) pitched five no-hit innings in his first start after nearly two months in the bullpen, then caught a flight to Dallas to be with his family before the game ended.

Red Sox 2, Orioles 0

In Boston, Henry Owens (4-3) gave up three hits in 7 2-3 innings, Blake Swihart hit a solo homer and Boston completed a three-game sweep that included three shutouts. Robbie Ross Jr. worked the ninth for his sixth save.

Yankees 6, White Sox 1

In New York, Luis Severino (5-3) pitched five-hit ball for six innings, Dustin Ackley homered off Erik Johnson (3-1) to lift New York's late-waking offense and New York cut its magic number for clinching at least a wild card to three.

Blue Jays 5, Rays 4

joyed a twice-to-beat edge in the finals after sweeping all of their matches in the elimination round.

Sakudi went on to win the women's crown but not without getting a scare from the GSM Babes in the championship. Their unbeaten season ended with a 10-9 loss in the finals opener but bounced back with a 26-0 crushing in Game 2 to foil the Babes' upset bid.

Bert Camacho, Thelma Mizer, Maria Aldan, Juljean Ngeskebei, Britta Baechler,

In Toronto, Josh Donaldson hit a solo homer off Steve Geltz (2-6) with two outs in the ninth, his 41st this year.

Mets 8, Reds 1

In Cincinnati, Jacob deGrom (14-8) gave up one run and five hits and struck out nine over six innings in his first outing since Sept. 15—he had been skipped over in the rotation to rest.

Marlins 9, Braves 5

In Miami, Justin Bour homered twice and drove in three runs as Miami completed a three-game sweep. Bour was 7 for 12 in the series with four homers and eight RBIs.

Brewers 8, Cardinals 4

In St. Louis, pinch-hitter Jason Rogers had a ninth-inning grand slam off Trevor Rosenthal (2-4), who had converted 47 of 49 previous save chances.

Rockies 12, Dodgers 5

In Denver, Nolan Arenado had a career-high five RBIs, including a three-run homer, and Colorado completed a three-game serry that kept Los Angeles' magic number at two for its third straight NL West title.

Giants 5, Athletics 4

In Oakland, California, Chris Heston (12-10) gave up four runs and six hits over five-plus innings to win for the first time in two months. He had been 0-5 with a 4.90 ERA in nine starts since beating Milwaukee on July 27.

Diamondbacks 4, Padres 2

In San Diego, Ender Inciarte had two homers among his four hits. He drove in three runs and also stole his 21st base.

Suaad Younis, Carlyn Reyes, and Krissa Deleon Guerrero were the other members of the Paul Salalila- and Ed Mendiola-coached Sakudi.

Erlinda Naputi, Catalina Dela Cruz, Jhaneeka Atalig, Melissa Benjamin, Jennifer Palacios, Naelyn Naputi, Tani Masga, C.J. Litulumar, Ta'an Demapan, Tiah Camacho, Sue Cabrera, Almina Deleon Guerrero, Nicia Cabrera, and Lizann Deleon Guerrero were the other players of the Bill Camacho-coached Babes.

ENRICO

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tlers drew Tiffin University, 1-1, in their season debut last Sept. 4 and two days later pulled off a 1-0 triumph over California University of Pennsylvania. Del Rosario and company then went on a five-game winning streak after prevailing against Trevecca Nazarene University, 2-1; Kentucky Wesleyan College, 3-2; Mercyhurst University, 2-1; and Seton Hill University, 3-1. The Battlers absorbed their lone loss so far this season last Sept. 24 at the hands of Ohio Volley University, 0-1, but they recovered quickly with a 1-0

Spieth wins Tour Championship to cap off big season

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Geri is MGA's August Ace

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SAIPAN TRIBUNE

Mamba takes lead in Blue Haus caging



By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Mamba finished strong to beat Oh My J, 67-58, in the lone game played in the 2015 Blue Haus/IT&E Inter-Color Basketball League yesterday at the Navy Hill court.



Mamba, previously called Wag Kang Pabebe, had a 15-6 wind-up in the last 4:20 of the game to withstand Oh My J's second-half rally and register a league-best 5-2 record. Oh My J dropped to second place with its 4-2 slate, tying idle Makalao Lang and Pasion De Amor, and had its four-game winning streak snapped.

Oh My J worked its way back from a 10-point deficit early in the second half, 33-43, and finally grabbed the lead as Junar Guiab's baseline jumper capped the team's 15-4 spurt, 48-47, with about six minutes left on the clock. It was a close game from thereon with the match tied last at 52-all after Mark Asuhan muscled his way into the basket, with four minutes and change left in the game.

A fastbreak layup from Adon-

is Macoto broke the deadlock and sparked a pivotal 11-0 run for Mamba. Brendon Talaria gave Mamba the next 2 points off his pair of charities before leaving the game due to an injury, while Ariel Abadilla, Christian Devero,

and Oscar Mina Jr. teamed up for the 7 other points. Mina capped the breakaway with his layup against two Oh My J defenders, bringing back Mamba's double-digit lead, 63-52.

Oh My J was quiet for more than three minutes, as Nate Mateo and Ryan Sanciango were cold off the bench and missed all their outside shots, while Guiab and Asuhan also muffed point-blank shots. Asuhan's triple ended Oh My J's silence, but he was too late the hero, as they were still down by 8, 55-63, with only 44 seconds remaining in the game.

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Lebria leads the way for Sakudi

By JON PEREZ
jon_perez@saipantribune.com
REPORTER



Liz Lebria collected three individual awards to lead the way for eventual champion Sakudi in the Belau Women's Slow-pitch Softball League last Sunday at the Dandan ballfield.

The Sakudi center fielder went on to win the batting crown and most runs scored on her way to claiming the regular season's most valuable player award.

She batted a combined 3-for-7 in the finals with three singles, four runs, and two RBIs.

Teammate Erin Mendiola was named finals MVP after combining for 5-for-7 with six runs, three singles, a double, and an RBI.

Rachel Salalila and Pina Magofna were the other Sakudi players who won an individual award after clinching

the most RBIs and best ERA titles. She had 15 RBIs in the regular season and went 3-for-6 in the two-game finals.

Salalila had a single and an RBI in Game 1 and scored two runs after being walked twice in Sakudi's 26-0 crushing of the GSM Babes in the deciding match.

Magofna pitched a complete game in Game 2 of the finals where she shut down the Babes. She held the Babes to eight hits, all singles, and one walk while forcing opposing batters to either fly out, grounded out or hit line drives.

The GSM Babes had some consolation after Kuki Pangelinan, Pauline Camacho, and Eddilyn Benjamin also went home with individual trophies based on the regular season statistics.

Pangelinan had the most doubles, Camacho was the home run queen, and Benjamin had the most number of

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Enrico slowly adjusting to collegiate soccer

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Former MP United Football

Club stalwart Enrico Del Rosario is learning the ropes in collegiate soccer.

Del Rosario is suiting up for

Alderson Broaddus University in the NCAA Division II, which began its 2015-2016 early this month. The right back defender



played in a few games out of the Battlers' eight matches and is

thankful for his teammates and coaches, who are helping him go through his rookie season.

"I believe I did well in the games that I have played. The level here is higher compared to Saipan and the training is very intense. My teammates and coaches are very nice and helpful and I am learning a lot from them. The level of competition is high and each game has been a good and tight one," the 18-year-old student-athlete said.

Alderson's matches have closely fought that in its six wins it led no more than two goals and recorded a draw and loss in the two other games. The Bat-

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CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
Enrico Del Rosario, second left, chases the ball in one of his games with Alderson Broaddus University in the NCAA Division II early this month.



JON PEREZ

The GSM Babes almost won the championship but fell short with their upset title bid against regular season undefeated team Sakudi in the Belau Women's Slow-pitch Softball League last Sunday at the Dandan ballfield.